

*National*

# *Biways*

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NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE BISEXUAL MOVEMENT IN AUSTRALIA

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Wayne Roberts of ABN is seen here with Jan, Lynn & Greg of San Deigo BiPol holding the ABN Banner at the March for the Civil Rights for Gays, Lesbians and Transvestites on June 25 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

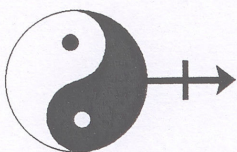
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*Harper's Bi-zaar. News & Views. Bi Personals. plus what's on & coming up.*





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Melbourne Star Observer, Green Left Weekly, Harpers' Bazaar, Cleo, ILGA Bulletin, the Internet.

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE & PRINCIPLES

National BIWAYS is produced by the Australian Bisexual Network to inform its audience about social, political and personal issues relevant to bisexuality, to provide a forum for exchanging opinions and sharing experiences, to link up with and support geographically or socially isolated bisexual people, to foster the Bisexual Movement in Australia and to help build a diverse multicultural community of bisexual and bi-friendly people and groups in Australia.

ABN realises that bisexuality is inextricably linked to other identities (gender, race, class, etc). Our intention is that National BIWAYS will represent a broad spectrum of bisexual voices and images. We are committed to taking an active role in building a multicultural bisexual community free of racism, sexism, classism, homophobia and other forms of oppression.

Through self-examination and through the contents of this news magazine, we will endeavour to challenge our own racism, classism, sexism (and our own biphobia) as well as that of others. We will work to create a supportive bisexual community and to promote equality and understanding for bisexual people in both the heterosexual and the lesbian/gay communities. We regard ourselves as part of a larger sexual minority (queer) community, a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, and consider the fight for lesbian and gay rights to be our own. We advocate the recognition, inclusion and involvement of bisexual people in existing gay and lesbian and transgender communities, in lesbian and gay politics, in community development and consultations, in sexual health and HIV/AIDS issues, policy, research and education. ABN does not support the promotion of pedophilia or organisations that promote it.

We are sex-positive, recognising that we live under increasing sexual oppression. We support sex education for its own sake. We advocate the distribution of information and resources to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS, STDs and unwanted pregnancies. We support the rights of people with HIV/AIDS to be free of discrimination, to have access to information, housing and quality medical care and treatments.

We seek to expand, not constrain, the definitions of bisexual and we respect the right of the individual to define her/his own self-definition, identity and type of relationship(s), free from any social, political, religious or economic coercion. We support healthy relationships between consenting adults. We acknowledge the right of partners, particularly female partners of bisexual men, to quality non-judgemental counselling and health services if needed, to greater understanding by all communities and to honesty in their relationship.

National BIWAYS is published at least once every two months. It is available by membership subscription, exchange, at the Centre or from various affiliated bisexual groups in Australia. The views expressed in this magazine are those of the authors unless otherwise stated. The inclusion of a person's name or photograph or business advertisement should not be taken as an indication of their sexual identity.

The Australian Bisexual Network, Bisexual Youth Forum, the Bisexual Community Centre and National BIWAYS are unfunded and rely on your support to keep going. We welcome submissions of material for publication; assistance with production; involvement in Network and group activities; individual and community financial or "in kind" support.

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Material in National BIWAYS may be reproduced by other bisexual or bi-friendly groups provided the publication and author are acknowledged. We encourage other groups to do the same.

The Australian Bisexual Network is a full member of the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) and is host group for ILGA's Bisexual Information Pool.



# EDITORIAL

Dear friends, well here we are at last with a very late edition of the August-September issue of National Biways. Please forgive us for the wait. We have been extremely busy over the period.

Our national information, resource and drop-in centre, the Bisexual Community Centre in Brisbane has to move out of the rent free venue we have occupied since January 1995. At first we thought we only had a max. of 2 weeks to move out but we have organised to be out now by October 1st. The reason, well we don't really know but it appears the owner of the building just does not want a bisexual centre and visible bisexual people here. The owner and his family live in the building so we are certainly visible to them but we do not feel we have caused any ill feeling, problems etc. by our presence.

So we have been busy composing letters, sending faxes, lobbying ministers, politicians and health officials, doing off media releases and organising a petition seeking funds to rent a new venue.

**YOU** can throw in your support by writing, telephoning or faxing a message calling on the Queensland Health Minister, Mr. Peter Beattie and Federal Health Minister, Dr. Carmen Lawrence to find funds for the Australian Bisexual Network to relocate the Bisexual Community Centre into new premises. We have asked for \$12000 to relocate and rent new premises. You may also contact your Federal Member of Parliament or Senator and seek their support in lobbying Dr. Lawrence. If you are in Queensland then do the same with your state Member of Parliament.

Peter Beattie:- tel. 07-32341182; fax 07-32294478  
Carmen Lawrence:- 06-2777220; fax 06-2734146

**YOU** can also request a petition form to gather signatures or if you can call into the Centre to sign the petition here. We already have over 250 signatures from Bis, gays, lesbians, transies and straights requesting funding for ABN.

We have also received messages of support from individuals and groups around Australia and overseas including South Africa, Northern Ireland and the USA. These also went to the Ministers of Health.

We conducted a National Bisexual Phone-In over the week-end of August 19 & 20. We had hoped to inform you of this before time but alas, so you can still call during our hours to report harassment, abuse, violence, discrimination and issues of concern about your bisexuality, identity, family, relationships, health, lifestyle, community and provision of services. You can call us on (07) 32540692 or toll free if you really need to on 1800-653223 any Mon - Thur 6-9pm and Sat - Sun 2-6pm.

Those who have received their Biways through the post will have noticed the address labels. They have been produced on the new computer system purchased for the Centre with funding from the Gaming Machine Community Benefit Fund.

The labels also show your membership number and the month and year your membership falls due for renewal. If this has been highlighted then your membership is now due or in some cases overdue. To continue to receive Biways and to vote at our AGM please pay your fee promptly.

**AGM ?** Yes our Annual General Meeting is coming up. It has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 10th at 3pm. For those who can come please do. It would be nice to know we have your continued support. We will be putting forward a proposal to open the management committee up to non-Bi community representatives. This may allow us to function more efficiently, obtain our incorporation, greater recognition and respect from other organisations and secure grants.

Nominations are required for both management committee positions and from bisexual people, partners for the ABN National Council which represents bisexual people in defined regions of each state and certain groups such as partners and HIV +ve bisexuals. Please get involved so we can continue to grow and come of age.

## Management Committee:

President (Chairperson)  
Vice-Chairperson; Secretary; Treasurer;  
and up to 5 other members.

## ABN National Council:

Male Co-Convenor & Female Co-Convenor  
National Women's Officer; National Men's Officer  
National Youth Officer; National Ethnic Affairs'  
Officer elected from the following filled positions:-  
2 Youth Reps.; 2 HIV +ve Reps.; 2 Partners Reps.;  
2 Bi Trans Reps.; plus Regional Reps. from Qld,  
NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA, WA and NT.



## BISEXUAL AWARENESS in MELBOURNE does QC

For those that do not know, Q.C. is an annual conference for Queer students - gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered, basically anyone who doesn't identify with mainstream notions of sexuality.

It is thanks to an ABN member from Adelaide, Sabina, that BAM actually got involved in the conference. She rang us to see if we were involved which at that stage we weren't. Her call set off a chain of events, leading to BAM presenting at the plenary, delivering a workshop on issues facing bisexuals and arranging a BiNite - for bisexuals and bi-friendly people at the Conference.

The response to all the things we did was fantastic and we received great feedback. In the plenary talk, Danny and I (Jenneth) attempted to confront all the stereotypes of bisexuals in a humorous and non-threatening way. It was followed with a personal story of my own - a challenge for me coming from long term lesbian separatism!

The theme to our workshop was "Human Connections help create Change" - the premise that just by getting together and talking we start changing things. Myke Dobber, ABN member from Tassie, ran a workshop the day before generating a lot of issues, which we picked up on and continued in our workshop. What came out of it was a strong desire for a National Bisexual Conference - BAM will keep you informed!

On the Thursday, Tony, from the QC Collective spoke out about the invisibility of bisexuality at the Conference and how this affected him personally as the only out -Bi collective member. He spoke honestly and eloquently, making a lot of people think.

That night, 45 people attended our dinner - it was fantastic. A number of people commented that they came along because their prejudices had been confronted and they wanted to know more. We swooled down to a local hotel and everyone talked well into the night.

I'm sure that the result of QC and the involvement of BAM and the other bisexual groups and individuals, a lot of stereotypes were broken down about bisexuals and bisexuality. As there is no 'politically correct' way to be bisexual and (as yet) no "Bi Thought Police", we have a great chance to develop a welcoming culture of acceptance for all people regardless of their background, sexuality and identity - QC was an indication that this is in fact a possibility.

Jenneth Barry  
Bisexual Awareness in Melbourne

Note: Anyone interested in discussing a proposed Bisexual Conference in Melbourne ring Jenneth on (03) 93069869 or the BAM telephone line Mon 7:30 - 10:30pm or Tue 7:30 - 10:30pm on (03) 98770224.

## BISEXUAL COMMUNITY CENTRE TO MOVE OUT OF 16 ANNIE STREET

As some people will already be aware of, the Bisexual Community Centre and thus ABN have to move out from 16 Annie Street, New Farm in Brisbane. The move date is September 24 unless we can organise an extension.

We have been sending letters, making phone calls, media releases, lobbying etc. politicians, health departments, other organisations to try and obtain alternative premises or obtain funding to rent premises. So far a new venue has not been located.

ABN has organised a petition calling on the Queensland and Federal Ministers for Health to find \$12000 to enable ABN to rent premises. You can call into the Centre up to Sep. 24 and sign our petition or some individuals and other Bi groups have petition forms you can sign if you are not in Brisbane. Volunteers are needed from 2pm to help with the move out.

Alternatively you can write, phone or fax the Health Ministers call on then to fund ABN so that the services offered by the Bisexual Community Centre will continue. Contacting your local state MLA and federal MP and Senators requesting they assist is another avenue. Getting other organisations to send letters of support would be welcomed. See Belfast response letter.

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Queensland Minister for Health  
GPO Box 48  
Brisbane QLD 4001  
tel. (07) 32341182 fax (07) 32294478



## *The Down Under Project*

The Australian Bisexual Network proposed the Down Under Project back in October 1993. The aim of the Project was to invite submissions of personal stories, histories, poetry, drawings and the like which would form Australasia's first bisexual anthology. Publication of material received to date was put on hold because it was felt more personal stories were required, lack of time and resources to collate the material and uncertainty over costs of self publishing. ABN is pleased to announce that Cath Lawrence, ABN member of Sydney has volunteered to fill the position of editor.

Further submissions from bisexual women and men, their partners, parents or siblings who reside or resided in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Norfolk Island or the South Pacific, will be accepted up until November 1995. Bisexual Groups are also encouraged to submit articles about their formation, history, campaigns or submit photographs from social and political events. We require personal stories from bisexual people that also reflect the diversity of our bisexuality, cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds, relationships, age, acceptance etc. Items can be of any length but large pieces of work may be edited down to a manageable size for publishing. Real or pen names can be used for the published work but so that we can follow up any editing queries your name, and a contact address must be submitted with your work. All authors whose work is accepted for publication will receive a copy of the finished publication.

Material for the Down Under Project should be sent to:-

**Down Under Project**  
**PO Box 490**  
**Lutwyche**  
**Queensland**  
**Australia 4030**

or E-Mail to  
**C.Lawrence@unsw.edu.au**

***HAVE YOUR STORY TOLD.  
IT MAY HELP OTHERS.***

## *SEXUALITY AND YOUTH FORUM '95*

In June this year the Victorian AIDS Council provided the opportunity for bi, lesbian, gay and transgendered young people from across the country to come together to discuss issues around their sexuality, at the "Have Your say: Sexuality and Youth Forum '95".

The Forum consisted of a series of workshops interspersed with 'expert' presentations on various topics, split into four major areas: coming out, gender identity and sexual orientation, lifestyles, and community.

While the conference organisers went to quite some lengths to ensure inclusivity (the coming out presentation, for example, included stories from a lesbian queer, a bi M2F transsexual, a F2M transsexual, a Thai-Australian gay, a Koori lesbian and a 63 year old gay male), the issues discussed were, by and large, 'traditional' lesbian and gay concerns, and innovative approaches to sexuality and gender politics was limited in the presentations and workshops I attended. (This was perhaps partly due to the number of participants who worked in youth services in some capacity and were consequently less interested in hypertheoretical debate. I was more at home, as a Theory Head, at the Queer Collaborations Conference, I think). Also, there was little in the Forum that made it a youth issues forum, other than the ages of the conference participants - a focus on youth - specific issues (eg. youth homelessness, youth suicide etc.) was lacking. A further criticism I have is the dubious taste in in-conference entertainment; a brief drag show on the second day included racist and sexist jokes which left a sizable portion of the audience very tense indeed.

Having said this, the Forum was useful as an opportunity for non-het identifying youth from across the country to get together and compare notes, and unlike Queer Collaborations included young people beyond the university student community. If the Forum is held again next year (a question, as always, of funding), it is probably worth the ABN taking the initiative of offering speakers on issues from bi perspectives, and would probably be of particular interest to bis involved in youth services in some capacity.

Myke Dobber, ABN Youth Officer (Hobart, Tas.)

ABN only found out about this Forum 3 weeks before it was on, by reading in the gay press about another group that was being funded to attend. ABN made calls to Melbourne, Adelaide and Hobart to organise bi youth participation at the Forum as no other bi groups had been informed of this forum either and no bisexual identified youth were known to be registered. ABN paid for Myke's registration and the forum organisers covered the cost of air fares. ABN appreciated the opportunity to have a youth rep present but more networking is required by the organisers in the future if the diversity of non-het youth and their issues are to be fairly addressed. ABN was unlucky in that a bi female who was to attend could not at the last moment.



## The AUSTRALIAN BISEXUAL NETWORK

requires a volunteer

### WOMEN'S OFFICER

and a volunteer

### YOUTH OFFICER

in Brisbane.

The officers would be required to coordinate social support groups, take telephone calls and referrals and network with relevant groups in Brisbane and elsewhere. Participation in relevant conferences and forums may also be involved. People should be comfortable with their own bisexuality and have an understanding of the diversity of bisexual people and lifestyles they may encounter. The Youth Officer should be in the age range of 20 to 28. Motivated people with good communication skills, a health or counseling background, would be an advantage.

Similar ABN volunteer officers in other Australian capital cities are welcomed. Two national women's officers and two national youth officers are also required by ABN for the National Council.

Contact ABN on (07) 32540692  
or Wayne on (07) 38572774 a/h

## BISEXUAL WOMEN ON THE SUNSHINE COAST, QUEENSLAND

Are you a bisexual woman living on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland and would like to meet other coast women socially? Well you can.

Cecile would like other Bi women to contact her so they can get together regularly for coffee, a chat, support and going out.

For Cecile's telephone number, please contact the Bisexual Community Centre in person or by phone.

## NEW NUMBER FOR GOLD COAST GROUP

ABN member and Gold Coast Group contact, David has a new telephone number. It is:-

**(07) 55271152**

## DO WE WANT A NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Following the Queer Collaborations (national queer students) Conference in Melbourne in July, there has been growing interest in a National Bisexual Conference. Bi and Bi-friendly attendee at QC felt a conference in 1996 would be a good idea. See Jenneth's article on "Bisexual Awareness in Melbourne does QC".

Are we ready for another national conference? Are we mature enough as individuals or a community to support such a conference? What format should it take? When should it be? And where?

In October 1992, the then Western Australian Bisexual Network hosted the first National Bisexual Conference in Perth. It received considerable media attention in the days prior to its start and this may have kept many local bisexual people away for fear of disclosure. While people did come from other states and territories the number was low because many gay and straight media did not or would not inform their readers of such a conference and if they did it was only in the week to days before, giving little time for interstate people to organise themselves.

The Conference did however achieve a number of things. It raised the visibility of bisexuality on a national level as it was reported on national news bulletins and Wayne Roberts was interviewed by Liz Hayes on Channel 9's "Today Show". It allowed Bi people from different states to discuss issues and saw the foundation of a national network and newsletter, ABN and National Biways. In the month following the conference, bisexual groups were established in Adelaide and Sydney.

ABN and BAM would like to know what you think about another national conference. Would you attend a conference in Melbourne in the mid to late half of 1996? Would you help promote such a conference to others or in your area? Could you help with the planning, fund-raising, activities on the day? Could you run a workshop or present a paper or host some other activity? What type of format would you like? Should we try to get keynote speakers from say overseas such as Sue George, if funding was available? What type of accommodation should be offered? What upper limit should the registration fee not exceed?

We need you, yes, each and everyone of you to let us know what you think. Please show you are not as apathetic as members of many other groups or communities I have recently observed.

Contact:-

Wayne at ABN on (07) 32540692 or 1800-653223  
Jenneth at BAM on (03) 93069869 or (03) 98770224  
or write PO Box 490 Lutwyche QLD 4030.



# THE 17TH WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LESBIAN & GAY ASSOCIATION

## RIO de JANEIRO, BRAZIL -- JUNE 19 TO 26, 1995

Wayne Roberts, ABN Co-Convenor, flew out of Brisbane on June 16 bound for ILGA's 17th World Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This would be the second ILGA Conference for Wayne as he attended some sessions at the 1994 World Conference in New York City. It was at that Conference that the Australian Bisexual Network became the second bisexual organisation to be elected to the membership of ILGA. Paying his own airfares and registration fee, Wayne had been accepted to run a workshop on *Bisexuality: Issues for Lesbian & Gay Movements in the 3rd World* and would be representing ABN at the Conference.

His first port of call was Buenos Aires for an overnight stop. Wayne takes up the story of his trip. After finally getting into the city and a hotel, I went for a wander around the city centre and get a feed. Approached in one of the many malls, I was invited to come and see a show featuring female dancers. Mistake number one was accepting the invitation. Mistake number two was staying there. Mistake number three was agreeing to have "a" beer. One beer for me (and two beers for these women that were talking to me). Then the bill came -- \$35 US for each beer. Refusing to pay, I was subjected to stand over tactics by the owner and several thugs until the cash or at least most of it was handed over. So much for my first impressions of South America.

On the 17th I arrived at Rio's airport and caught a taxi to the apartment of John McCarthy, one of the organisers. There I met John's partner and many others arriving for the Conference. That night a group of us went out for dinner at a very special restaurant where I met up with Jan, Lynn and Greg from San Diego's bisexual political action group, BiPOL. A very pleasant meal, good company followed by some drinks at the Ball Cafe attached to the gay nightclub at Copacabana made a pleasant change to the night in Buenos Aires.

Sunday was a lazy day to catch up on some sleep and then a move to the Copacabana Sul Hotel where I was to stay courtesy of one of ILGA's member groups. That evening I went to the nightclub, The Ball, which was just around the corner. I met a very interesting woman working in it's cafe whose boyfriend was bisexual. The Club is big and very popular with a sort of sunken dance floor in the centre. After leaving in the wee hours I got chatting with a guy outside. He virtually invited himself back

to my hotel and I guess I can count myself lucky that the hotel would not let him in. We went down to a kiosk at the beach, open all night, and had a few drinks and talked. I came over feeling very woozy and when I offered my full glass of bourbon & coke to him he refused and poured half on to the ground and gave the rest back to me to drink. Shortly after I was physically sick and had little coordination. He helped me back to the hotel but took all the change from my pockets, leaving my wallet but saying he would see me again. I was sick for two days and feel now that I was drugged. I should not be so trusting.

Monday saw the opening ceremony of the Conference at the Rio Palace Hotel. It was quite an exciting experience. This followed the Press conference so there were plenty of people there from the Media. I got up following the ceremony and told the organisers and delegates how pleased I was to be here representing my organisation. I also stressed the fact that ILGA's membership included bisexual groups. This statement was made for the Media's benefit. The next day I was written up in one of the main newspapers as 'Wayne Roberts protested to ILGA that bisexuals are members. The article I was told described my physical features and clothes as though I was some object. (Julia, I should send you a copy to get a proper translation from Portuguese to English.)

I certainly attracted the attention of a number of reporters over the next few days as did my Bi colleagues from the USA. The Monday afternoon was organised for a sightseeing tour of Rio. Three bus loads of queers breezed about the city. It was on this trip that I became very ill and missed the evening entertainment. The next day I wasn't any better and sought treatment from the Conference doctor. Four drops of some solution in a half glass of water, a lie down for 2 hours and I was cured. No fever, nausea, headache, muscle and joint aches, weakness, it had all gone. I was able to rejoin the Conference and participate in the Bisexual workshop being run by San Diego BiPOL.

There workshop on the Tuesday evening was well attended. I had been told that about 70% of Brazilians were bisexual in behavior but there were no Bisexuals. This workshop showed there were bisexual identifying people in Brazil. Several interested gays and lesbians also attended. I felt a lot was achieved if only validating the identity of those bisexuals attending.





Some of the participants at BiPOL's workshop on Bisexual Diversity, 20 June 1995.

Two recommendations were made at the workshop to be presented at the Plenary session. One was, 'that when appropriate, where the words, gay and lesbian, appear in ILGA literature and announcements, the word bisexual, also appear'. The 'when appropriate' was to allow some leeway as it may not always be appropriate to use the B word.

Most of the Conference delegates were from Brazil and neighboring South American countries and there were plenty of day attendees. It was great to meet so many people from different groups, cultures and lifestyles. Wearing my Bisexual pride T-shirt gave me visibility at the Conference and allowed others to come forward and identify as bisexual. It was a very pleasing and satisfying experience for all concerned.

On the Wednesday, we were to find out that recommendations from our workshops would not be considered at the plenaries unless their status was changed. As my workshop was that evening, we put to the plenary that the status of at least my workshop be changed so that we could put recommendations to the next plenary. It was decided that by the plenary that a decision would be made that night and if a change of status was approved, all recommendations could come out of my workshop. The status was changed.

My workshop on Bisexuality: Issues for Lesbian and Gay Movements in the 3rd World had around 50 gay, lesbian and bisexual people attending. There was some hot debate at times from some of the gays and lesbians who asked on what authority did I have to speak on bisexuality or to gay and lesbian groups in

3rd World countries coming from Australia, a country of the 1st World. My defense was that I was not speaking from someone from the 3rd World. that I was not telling gay and lesbian groups what they must do, but that I was raising issues relating to the emerging out bisexual identities of people in the 1st World and the growing recognition and inclusion of bisexual people and groups in Lesbian and Gay Communities. Surely these were issues that groups needed to discuss as like the emergence of gay and lesbian identities in countries of the developing world, the emergence of bisexual identities will follow..

The Bisexuals present did stand up to be counted and spoke of the need for understanding, support and recognition. Marie, one of those attending, spoke out. She later praised the workshop and wrote out some of her story which a translated version appears in this issue. Other Brazilian bisexuals also praised the workshop and that the issue of bisexuals was being raised and discussed. The recommendation coming from this workshop was that 'ILGA establish a Bisexual Information Pool'. This was endorsed by those present and the other recommendations from the previous workshop would be submitted with this one to the plenary session. The workshop were not easy as I could only speak English. This was translated into Portuguese by one translator and into Spanish by another and then the reverse occurred or Portuguese to Spanish and both to English. The translators did a very tough but fantastic job. The Portuguese translator, Daniela, said she enjoyed the workshop and found it most interesting.



Thursday saw the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission present their annual Felipa de Souza Awards at a cocktail party catered for by The Ball Nightclub at the Rio Palace Hotel. The Awards were presented to the Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Rights Group, Anjaree, a lesbian rights group in Thailand and to Luiz Mott, a Brazilian anthropologist and longtime gay activist. In his research, Luiz discovered Felipa de Souza, the Brazilian woman convicted and tortured by the Portuguese Inquisition in 1591 for having sexual relationships with other women.

It was a proud moment when Australian, Rodney Croome from the Hobart based TGLRG, stepped forward to accept the award on behalf of the group. Rodney started his speech of well but my pride turned to a simmering anger and what I felt was a public humiliation and denial of my sexuality and that of especially bisexual Tasmanians. You see Rodney praised the efforts and support of Australian homosexuals and heterosexuals and in particular those in Tasmania. He said this probably without thinking but Rodney and I know each other, have spoken to each other on a number of occasions since 1990, had talked only that day and he had even looked my way. It was all I could do, to stop myself getting up and walking out of the room.

Both the Australian Bisexual Network and Wayne Roberts, me, were nominated by members for one of the Awards. Though not successful we were advised to submit details again for the 1996 Awards.

On Friday the scheduled Asia & Oceania Panel did not eventuate which was disappointing in light of ILGA's new regionalisation policy. I did attend one of the sessions on regionalisation. Regional Secretariats will be established and will manage affairs each region, organise regional conferences

and work with other bodies in their region. South America seems the only region to so far come together and for a Secretariat. North America and Europe may not be far away. Europe has organised regional ILGA conferences in the past. An Asian and/or Pacific Region/s has yet to be worked out. The International Conference on Emerging Lesbian and Gay Communities in Asia & Australia in Sydney on September 29 & 30 may be a good forum to develop such a regional structure. ILGA membership is strong in Asia but it has few Australian members because of the high membership fees, Australia being considered a country of the 1st World. The ALSO Foundation in Victoria was voted in as a new member at the opening plenary though no members were present at the Conference. The Conference considered many issues affecting gay, lesbian and transvestite people in the countries of South America. The Conference condemned the anti-gay violence and murders perpetuated in Brazil and other South American countries and denounced the governments of Chile, Ecuador and Nicaragua which continue to criminalise homosexual behavior between consenting adults.

At Saturday's plenary our long awaited recommendations from the bisexual workshops were presented. There was hot debate over the proposal to include the word bisexual where gay and lesbian appeared in ILGA material (when appropriate). There was some strong opposition and as a consensus is needed and not achievable, a vote was called for. Just prior to a vote being taken, the recommendation was withdrawn by BiPOL rather than have it defeated in a vote of the membership. The recommendation from my workshop was carried by consensus with the proviso that ABN host ILGA's Bisexual Information Pool. This was a very important achievement.

Some of the Bisexuals at the Bisexuality workshop conducted by Wayne Roberts on June 21st. Represented here are Denmark, Australia, Brazil, Germany and the USA.







Hector from Chile and Marcelo from Argentina prepare material for plenary presentation.

At this closing plenary, the new Secretaries General were elected. Jordi Petit from Barcelona, Spain and Inge Wallaert from Antwerp, Belgium were elected. ABN congratulates both Jordi and Inge on their election.

Other items of interest from the Conference were the election of Transvestite groups as members of ILGA. This is the first time that such groups have been welcomed as members. August 8th was designated as ILGA Day, recognising the founding date of ILGA back in 1978 and symbolise and strengthen a sense of unity among ILGAs's diverse world-wide membership.

Sunday saw the March for the Civil Rights of Gays, Lesbians and Transvestites along the esplanade of Copacabana Beach. It was a colorful parade with samba dancers, floats and a big pink Priscilla bus topped by drag queens. I had the ABN banner which attracted much media coverage and earned us a photograph in one of Brazil's main newspapers and interviews on TV including M-TV Brazil. Many spectators asked us to stop so they could get photographs of myself and BiPOL members carrying our banners. We even had bi-forgetful Rodney Croome carrying the banner at one time and walking behind it at other times (damm, I wish I had taken a photo of that). It was a wonderful experience to be carrying not only a symbol of our Network but also of Australia.

I made some good friends in Rio and established some valuable contacts with individuals, groups and

organisations particularly in South America. Our brochures on Bisexuality were eagerly picked up from the information table by those attending. The seed to organise bisexual groups in Brazil was planted with several people, especially Luz in San Paulo, keen to get something going and other groups are open to bisexual involvement. The media coverage can only further the bisexual movement and our visibility in Brazil and Argentina.

On a return visit to Buenos Aires on June 28, I met with one of the bisexual delegates to the Rio Conference, Marcelo, who had organised for me to be interviewed by NX, Argentina's gay magazine. That evening before I left for the airport to catch my flight to London, I participated in a gay and lesbian rights rally in central Buenos Aires. There I displayed our banner and was invited to speak on a live television news interview along with other gay, lesbian and transvestite community leaders. The interviewer translated my answers straight into Spanish. Once again the visibility of bisexuals in the community was raised and ABN received some good international press coverage.

Finally my visit to the UK allowed me to visit with Julian, our UK correspondent, speak to members of the Edinburgh Bisexual Group in Scotland and with members of the London Bisexual Group and Off Prink Publishing Collective.

Wayne Roberts.



## FROM BRAZIL: ONE WOMAN DARES TO SPEAK OUT.

I was born in a Catholic, conservative family. I'm the only child. My mother used to wash clothes as a way of making money and my father was a camera man. When I was sixteen years old, I had my first boyfriend, I got married when I was twenty-one years old to my third boyfriend who was nineteen and a virgin when we married. The first five years of my marriage were normal, but the next eight years were hell. My husband was a conservative man and belonged to the armed forces (macho man). I found out he had many lovers, and even so, when he used to arrive home he wanted sex with me as if it were the most natural thing in the world. It was a hard time, and even today I ask myself why my husband had sexual relationships with other women if he said he felt an extremely strong desire for me?

On August the 2nd, 1992, my husband killed himself in the home of one of his lovers. When I was married to him, he just forbid me to have homosexual friends and establish professional contacts with them (not only with men, but lesbians, transvestites and other crossdressers). It made me really upset.

After his death I remarried two years later without having sexual relations. During one year I wondered about my life, as if I were looking for something deep inside. It was when I discovered that I was bisexual. I felt a very strong attraction towards homosexual men and transvestites.

I've already had relationships with homosexuals and I felt great. It seems to me that I had directed his desire for his male partners toward me, a female. I have never had sex with a transvestite, but here in Rio where I'm spending a two week holiday, I feel attracted by their breasts and feminine form.

I have never had sex with a woman yet, I would allow a woman to kiss me, suck my tits and vagina, but I would never allow her to masturbate me or to put any other object into my vagina as substitute for the male organ.

My desire is to caress the body, kiss her lips, suck her tits, I can't imagine myself sucking other women's sex but I do see me masturbating her. Is this normal? I don't

know? Up to now, June 22nd 1995, I would like to find a partner that fulfills my fidelity expectations, but under the following conditions:



I believe that I would feel better getting married to or even living with a Homo that would accept sharing his partner with me, and in the event that they feel the need to be alone, they should accept the fact of me having a woman to satisfy my desires, but everything in a common agreement.

I'll even accept as absurd as it may sound, my boyfriend or his boyfriend being a hustler, if they practice safe sex, but I wouldn't have sex with a woman prostitute. If I'm not able to find my way through this I will start searching for a transvestite that accepts me as desiring both men and women.

I have a degree in foreign languages, English, and did a hairdressing course in 1986, a Auxiliary Nurse Course with studies in sexual therapy and a few weeks intensive course with Chemical Medicine, Hurbert Wernek, Boris Gasoy and Caio Fulio Coste in 1990 about theatrical directing and body and facial expression.

Truly Yours

Marie do Carmo Couto Costa de Silva  
Rua Radialista Osvaldo Dos Santos 400,  
Conjunto Residencial Governador Ney Braga  
Maringa, Parana - PR  
CEP 87083 - 210  
BRAZIL

Translated from Brazilian Portuguese to English by Daniela Guedes and Dick at the ILGA World Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 1995.

(Some of the intention and meaning of what Marie has said may have been lost in the translation to English.)

## NEW ANTHOLOGY: CALL FOR PAPERS

Articles are needed for an anthology focusing on queer (lesbigaytrans) 'circles' --- literary salons, social/political organisations, voguing households, spiritual circles, etc., especially interested in ancient, non-western, late 19th century, and '90s avant-garde --- to be edited by Randy P. Conner (author of *Blossom of Bone*) and David H. Sparks.

**Deadline: December 1, 1995.**

Send queries to:- R. Conner, 1106-A West Mary Street, Austin, Texas, 78704, USA.



# Bisexual

It's long been assumed that **bisexuals** live in a shadowland between **straight** and **gay** people, breaking all the **rules** by going both ways. Lynn Darling examines how bisexuality has come to be accepted in the **limelight** of the '90s.

They look so lovely, Claudia and Nadja, eyes closed, lips parted, as if resting after a recently spent passion. Nadja's head nestles on Claudia's shoulder; both of them are bare, the ad in the magazine would have us believe, beneath a pile of richly tapestried pillows. The ad is for Versace's home furnishings, but that's not the aspect of the domestic arrangement that gets our attention.

Sometimes it's artifice, sometimes it's not, or at least, not completely: Supermodel Rachel Williams, posing in a two-page photograph in another magazine, wears nothing but her sunglasses and a studded leather bracelet as she sprawls languorously on the rumpled sheets of a bed; beneath her, in black bra and tattoo, is her lover, the British singer Alice Temple. "I've had flings with women before, though my long-term relationships have always been with men," Williams says. "I was pleasantly surprised when I fell for Alice."

Suddenly, once more, bisexuality—the troubling, pleasurable possibility that desire can slip even the most elemental of limits—is visible again, bringing with it all of its unanswered questions, touching nerves, inciting both titillation and tirades. Is a desire for both men and women a separate sexual republic, distinct from both homosexuality and heterosexuality? Is it somehow a more evolved state of erotic being? Why do the images of men and women responding to the mystery of both sexes—in movies, in magazines, in song lyrics—fascinate, disturb, and provoke?

As usual, fashion provides the most hyperactive petri dish. At the shows in Paris, Milan, and New York, a number of designers played with the bisexual theme on the runways. At DKNY, Donna Karan sent out female models in twos: one dressed as a woman, the other as an Edwardian dandy. Anna Sui, too, challenged gender distinctions with male models in feminine fake-fur jackets and women in masculine four-button suits. And Anna Molinari used a bisexual intrigue between two women and a man as a narrative line while showing her collection.

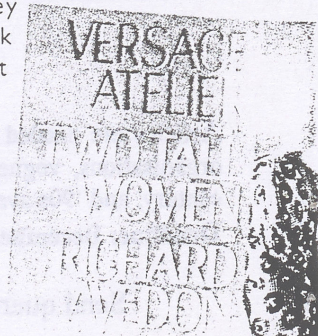
Such goings-on in the world of fashion, of course, are not akin to biblical utterances on the state of sex in society; but they are a kind of nervous tremor, a seismic shudder that sparks clues about the constantly shifting state of sexuality in the '90s. The anecdotal evidence has been slowly

gathering momentum. When the character played by actress Amanda Donohoe kissed another woman on *L.A. Law* several seasons ago, it was quite scandalous, the kind of thing only two yuppie hothouse flowers might indulge in. But when working-class Roseanne tried an experimental kiss with another woman, it was a signal that bisexuality was moving into the mainstream. Sandra Bernhard's friendships with such celebrities as Madonna and Courtney Love have been fodder for late-night talk shows for so long that Bernhard now professes herself bored with being bisexuality's poster child. The lovely, ambiguous bodies of the Calvin Klein advertising campaigns, bodies meant to arouse male and female viewers simultaneously, find their echoes now in the clothes worn to every suburban shopping mall.

Lately bisexuality has begun to step out of the pages of advertising copy and into real life: Patricia Ireland, president of the National Organization for Women, makes no secret of her loving relationships with both her husband and a longtime female companion. Singer Sophie B. Hawkins appears on the cover of *Out* magazine, and describes herself as "omnisexual." "I feel my sexuality is as individual as my soul, and it keeps getting enriched," she says. Male singers like Brett Anderson of the London Suede and the late Kurt Cobain have declared their affinity with—if not their practice of—bisexuality.

In the fashion world, of course, there is also an element of sheer naughtiness to the current fascination. Bisexuality becomes a way of saying, "Put *that* in your Contract with America, Newt." At the fall shows, "the models, whether they're bisexual or not, got carried away on the runway," observes one veteran of Paris, Milan, and New York. "They were holding hands and kissing each other and cuddling; it was as if they were saying to the audience, 'Fuck you, none of you have any idea what happens at the end of the day.'"

It is in fact the ambiguity, the not knowing, that is both tantalizing and threatening. When a rumor surfaced that Rachel Williams had abandoned Alice Temple for her former boyfriend, restaurateur Eric





# ity

WED. WEDNESDAY

# THE NEW YORK

Fashion prospectors are digging hard — but they still haven't struck gold

**DOG DAY AFTERNOON** are worth their well-earned selections. The show needs a **Nadja** and a **Naomi** and a **Shalom** and a **Niki** and a **Mimi** cause the New York many of the mannequins aren't worth a

**GETTING TANKED** has been so dull to see so interesting — see **Girl**. The film British comic book in a post-apocalyptic 2033, stars **Lori Loughlin** and **McDowell** who sports a full

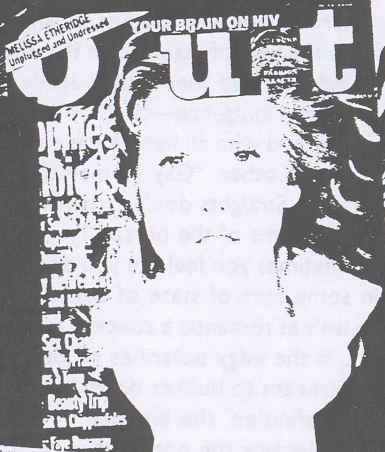


Marc Jacobs: Marc see The collection he showed

From the collections: Anna Molinari (above right) and DKNY (left, below left, right, below right). The late Kurt Cobain (below) once declared his affinity with the bisexual lifestyle. Models pretend to give a sexually charged performance in Versace's latest ad campaign (bottom), photographed by Richard Avedon.



Sandra Bernhard (above), Rachel Williams (above right), and Sophie B. Hawkins (right) have made no secret of their bisexual inclinations. Scenes from the runways: Anna Sui (top) and Richard Tyler (upper right).





Goode, a New York gossip column begged in its headline, "Rachel, Rachel, clue us in: Is it Eric, or is Alice the one?"

It is not the first time bisexuality has become a kind of taunting banner flashed at the rest of the world from the relatively secure niches of the rich, the famous, the artistic, or the professionally scandalous, places where one could live on the margins with a certain degree of comfort. In Bloomsbury and Harlem and Paris in the '20s, and then again in the counterculture of the '70s, bisexuality became a badge of the outlaw artist, the nonconformist determined to live by her or his own rules. "Is sexuality a fashion—like platform shoes, bell-bottomed trousers, or double-breasted suits—that appears and then disappears, goes underground, only to be 'revived' with a

In theory, bisexuality is the most perfect of erotic states: A way to know ourselves by plumbing the mysteries of both the other and the same.

difference?" asks Marjorie Garber in her intriguing new book, *Vice Versa: Bisexuality and the Eroticism of Everyday Life* (Simon & Schuster). "Do we need to keep forgetting bisexuality in order to remember and rediscover it?"

Maybe we do. No doubt men and women continue to love each other, in whatever configurations please them, in roughly the same numbers and to the same extent that they always have. It's the degree of public notice that varies, and in that way, bisexuality becomes a particularly sensitive reading of our sexual temperature. And this time around bisexuality seems trickier and more complicated than in its previous public incarnations.

In the '70s bisexuality was about androgyny, about blurring the lines, about erasing borders, and in the end, it was about boys. The focus then was on rock stars: Mick Jagger, David Bowie, and Elton John prowled the stage in personae that glided easily from masculine to feminine and back again.

There was a kind of predatory voraciousness to Jagger that ambushed desire from both male and female perspectives, alternately teasing and taunting, flirting and demanding. The '70s, after all, were about permissiveness, about the destruction of power structures—Jagger beckoned us over the barricades, blithely abandoning the macho turf: Now everyone could be on top.

In time, of course, it all swung back. Elton John came out as a full-fledged homosexual, Bowie made his mea culpas and declared himself straight, Jagger disappeared behind Jerry Hall and a brood of children. It didn't matter really: Their poses had always been about performance, and in a curious way, notes Garber, bisexuality and celebrity, from Marlene Dietrich to Madonna, from Oscar Wilde to James Dean, have always had a complicit relationship. "Celebrities do constantly reinvent themselves," Garber notes in *Vice Versa*. "One of the ways in which they have done this ... is by renegotiating and reconfiguring not only their clothes, their bodies, and their hair but also their sexualities." Celebrity and bisexuality both revolve around performance. "To shock and to give pleasure:

These are the arts of the erotic icon as consummate star."

In theory, bisexuality is the most perfect of erotic states, a way to know ourselves and learn the lessons desire has to teach us from bodies like our own as well as from those that are different, to plumb the mysteries of both the other and the same. It is, needless to say, not that simple.

In the '80s the bisexual went underground: AIDS made the man or woman who slept with members of both sexes a betrayer, an unsuspected carrier of a dreaded disease, indiscriminate, lascivious. And for gay men and women, struggling so fiercely for even the most rudimentary of rights, the bisexual was the erotic equivalent of the light-skinned black trying to pass as white, enjoying all the ease

of "heterosexual privilege," trying to have it both ways. For others, *bisexual* was just a word for gays who didn't want to acknowledge their "real" sexual orientation. When a bisexual character in the Canadian movie *Paris, France* says that he's slept with

more women than men, his gay lover observes, "If cannibals ate turnips, that wouldn't make them vegetarians."

Now in the '90s we seem to be cautiously trying to come to terms with desire that doesn't recognize borders. This time, as bisexuality surfaces again in the circus of notoriety, entertainment, and fame, the emphasis is not on blurring boundaries but on crossing them. It is not the age of the androgyne.

This time the media emphasis is on women. Maybe it's because the supermodels are the '90s equivalent of the rock star. They are no longer anonymous mannequins, but celebrities in their own right, and their sexuality is part of their power to enthrall.

And maybe it's the women who command attention because in this age of voyeurism, where the safest sex is thinking about someone else's, girl-girl relationships always seem less threatening than boy-boy scenarios: "When I think of male bisexuals, I think they're really gay," a straight 28-year-old man says. "But when I think of female bisexuals, I think they're heterosexuals who are just fooling around."

Which is the kind of assumption that drives most bisexuals—the kind who live their lives outside of the protective limelit cradle of indulgence—crazy. "It's a constant negotiation," says a friend who all her life has shifted from one erotic anchor to the other. "Gay women think you're trying to pass as straight. Straights don't trust you. I like to think I define myself in terms of the person I'm attracted to, not the sex, but sometimes you feel like you don't belong anywhere; you're in some sort of state of constant exile. And these days exile isn't as romantic a concept as it used to be."

In fact, in the edgy polarities of identity politics, where everyone is meant to hunker down behind a well-defended wall of self-definition, the bisexual throws down a kind of gauntlet, challenging the notion that any of us are any one thing. The very mystery of bisexuality is provocative—no one knows what it is; all of us use the term in different contexts. Is a bisexual a person who sleeps with both sexes interchangeably, who loves first one sex and then another, who finds an erotic charge in an individual regardless > 15



## BISEXUALITY (continued from page 14 )

of sex? What makes a bisexual? Nature, nurture, brain chemistry, culture? Freud believed we are all born bisexual, and maybe on some level we all stay that way. But the very ambiguity can be troubling in a world where we seem to need the boundaries—and not knowing where they lie can scare us. "I'm fine with straights," says a straight friend, "and I'm fine with gays, but someone who's bisexual makes me nervous—I don't know what cards are on the table."

But for some, the lack of a fixed sexual identity may prove more comfort than threat. Bisexuality has a particular appeal among the young right now. According to

Garber, increasing numbers of high school students are declaring themselves bisexual at a time when the state of things between the sexes seems best described as an uneasy truce. In a world where coming-of-age sexually means dealing with date rape and STDs, maybe sometimes the only "boy" a girl can trust is another girl. And vice versa. Maybe the pull of the other, the attraction to what's different, isn't so appealing when the opposite sex can be threatening; perhaps then, the idea that you can find a like-minded soul in a like-minded body provides an unexpected comfort.

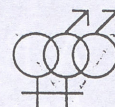
"The mood is in the air," Karl Lagerfeld said of the bisexual theme he presented in the Chanel fall collection. "Nothing is forbidden anymore."

Of course, if that were true, if nothing were truly forbidden anymore, fashion would not be having such a field day with bisexuality right now. It is the sense of transgression, of crossing a line, of touching a nerve, that has always made the idea of a sexuality without boundaries so appealing. And if that is the case, then bisexuality will only become "real," no longer forbidden, when it is no longer fashionable.

From Harper's Bazaar June 1995

## SYDNEY BISEXUAL SUPPORT NETWORK

General Information: 0055 25926



## MONTHLY MONDAY MEETING

8 PM  
NCOSS  
Former Children's Court  
66 Albion Street  
( cnr Commonwealth Street )  
Surry Hills

OCT 9

## BISEXUALITY TRANS & GENDERism

Special Guest: Jill Hooley  
and  
our very own Norrie-May Welby  
talk about ...



cutting through the  
Political, Practical and Personal Issues

MEETING ENQUIRIES ONLY: Linda 550 9625

## CONFERENCING

Wayne Roberts will be attending the International Conference on Emerging Lesbian & Gay Communities in Australia/Asia at Sydney University on September 29 & 30.

Wayne has also been accepted to give a short talk on violence against bisexuals at the October 27 & 28, National Conference on Violence Against Gay & Lesbians also at Sydney University.

Wayne will be paying for his own fares and registration to attend these conferences to represent ABN and the bisexual community.





## A Bisexual Journey

A young woman explores her sexual options as she travels cross-country.  
By Rachel Cohen

When I pulled onto the ferry at Cave-in-Rock, IL, the Ohio River was so obscured by fog that I could barely see the Kentucky shore. My navy-blue Saab was the only car on the boat; the freezing rain had kept the locals home, and there were no other tourists. I sat in my car and a ferryman in a bright-yellow slicker emerged near my window: "Where the hell are you goin' on a morning like this?" he asked.

I said, hopefully, "Memphis?" He didn't look reassured.

"You a student?" he guessed.

"Not anymore."

"Married?"

"Not yet."

"Ah," he said. "Engaged. You're on your way to get married."

I drove slowly along the icy Kentucky highway, wondering how I should have responded: "No, I don't want to get married. I think I could settle down someday with a person of either gender, but it's a little early to be sure of anything. Which is one of the reasons I'm out here driving around on this hellish morning." The man in the yellow slicker might not have understood that, but I may not be giving him enough credit: He probably watches *Roseanne*.

While you're traveling, each new place allows you to reinvent yourself. I feel the same sense of possibility in relationships; I like meeting each person on different ground. But adaptability doesn't offer a sense of purpose. The liberation movements of the '60s and '70s, whether they unfolded along lines of gender, orientation, or race, had definite goals. Bisexuality in the '90s is not similarly directed, nor do I want it to be—it's a kind of liberated wandering. For me, bisexuality extends over time: it's a series of romantic experiences with men and women. Like traveling, it's the sum of the places you've been.

It's hard to remember all this when you fall in love. You're not looking back over your experiences; you're in love with him or her right now.

Thinking of sexuality as a personal route is only comforting if you know where you're going. Last year I got a travel grant from Radcliffe, which gave me the chance to drive 20,000 miles and think a lot about routes.

I got lost somewhere north of Memphis. Squinting down at my road atlas, I thought of a conversation I'd had two years previously.

"Are you going to leave me for a woman?" he said one morning, his arm folded around my waist.

I lay there enjoying the feeling of protection. He was solid, he would ask for what he wanted; I could be demanding, too. But I resented him for being so calm, as if I would never leave. I also resented him for asking a question I was afraid to

answer. When I am with men I miss women.

I looked at his square shoulders and the broad hand resting on his chest, and I thought,

There are so many parts of my life that you can't reach. If I stayed with you, how would I go to gay clubs and gay rights marches? Dating him made me worry that I wasn't actually bisexual. But I liked him—what if I was in love and everything else was politics, and I realized this too late? I felt obliged to say something. I sat up.

"I don't know."

"Well, I don't see much of a gray area. Either you will or you won't."

I thought, If I lie down and settle in against him, he'll think I'm staying. I lay down, but I refused to relax.

"Now I've upset you," he said.

"I wish I could tell you. I wish I knew myself."

"I understand," he said, but he didn't.

Talking about sexuality is like navigating with an outdated atlas: You can't tell if certain words really work anymore; you just have to hope that Highway 51 still goes to Memphis.

By the time I got to New Orleans, I was tired of trying to fight off other people's assumptions. I went to a bar I'd been told about called Rubyfruit Jungle, where I met a woman playing pool. I chalked my pool cue and watched her as she leaned out over the table. Her shirt fell forward, and I could see the hollow of her neck and the line of her collarbone. As she set up her shot, she told me stories about the other people in the bar. I nodded and added a little history of my own to the game. She was not disturbed to hear that I had dated men, which was a pleasant surprise.

Women in the South face a lot of pressure to get married, and so a bisexual life is common, even among women who might identify as lesbian in another setting. Everyone I met in New Orleans had tried a conventional lifestyle, although none of them considered themselves bisexual. Relationships with men were meant to camouflage relationships with women, which left no space in between for experiences with both. This is the kind of bisexuality that some lesbians denounce as "passing"—not bisexuality as choice, but as compromise.

I experienced a little friendly southern pressure myself, while I worked at an HIV clinic in Orangeburg, SC.

Even at the clinic, where the staff had

I have heard both gay and straight people blame bisexuals for the spread of AIDS, as if we were double agents circulating among them.

learned to talk about male homosexuality with ease, most people asked me if I had a boyfriend. The assumption that everyone is straight can have terrible consequences. One reason AIDS is spreading so fast in the South is that most people don't talk much about sex.

For me, sex has never been without the edge of AIDS, and the gay community has never been without the backdrop of illness. AIDS has made bisexuality more > 17



## A BISEXUAL JOURNEY

(continued from page 16)

threatening. Many people have told me that they recognize some aspect of themselves in me, but the rest "seems so strange, so promiscuous, so dangerous, so unimaginable." Their misconceptions fuel the fear that something from that strange place will enter their familiar world. People are in a hurry to blame someone for the AIDS epidemic, and they already distrust the fluidity of bisexuality. I have heard both gay and straight people accuse bisexuals of spreading AIDS, as if we were double agents circulating among them. This is flawed epidemiology.

South Carolina made me want to look gay. No matter how hard I tried, everyone still assumed I was straight. I kept cutting my hair. I wore heavy corduroy and flannel button-down shirts. At the clinic, no one seemed to notice. My housemate told me that I seemed feminine despite my clothing. She wasn't the only one who thought so. I used to go to a restaurant in Columbia called Goatfeathers. There was a beautiful man who worked there on Sunday mornings, and he would lean over me to take my order and bring me food. Once he ducked close enough for me to smell soap and think of worn denim, and asked, "You doing all right here?" "Mm-hmm," I bleated. I turned and saw that a woman had sat down next to me at the bar. She was wearing a lot of silver earrings, a leather jacket, and a look of utter disdain. I realized that she thought my signals were crossed, and I squirmed.

Generally, I would rather be mistaken for a lesbian than for a straight woman. But you can't blame anyone for getting it wrong. There's no definitive symbol—you can't have half a tattoo or crop half of your hair. A bisexual image has to be assembled over time. I almost never feel instantly recognized; only three or four people have asked me if I was bisexual. I have to wait until people know me. Somewhere along the Mississippi, I realized that I wanted to feel at home. I needed a familiar place as well as a route.

Bisexuality doesn't have an obvious place. A married couple, a lesbian couple, and even a single person feel complete when they go home, but I don't know what a bisexual household would look like. I've dated other bisexual people, but were we bisexual couples? If bisexuality is a state of being, like traveling, can it have its own landscape? Or maybe if I find my own landscape then my sexuality will just come along for the ride?

In western Louisiana I started to take pictures of my shadow. So many of the people I'd met had failed to recognize me that I found the blurry images of myself reassuring. Your shadow is the merging of you with the landscape. One of the best pictures is of my shadow sitting in the shadow of my car in the yellow grass next to a highway in Texas.

Texas was more open; people there were not surprised to see a woman traveling alone. I returned the jaunty waves of ranchers in pickup trucks, and no one in mile-high Fort Davis asked me if I was on my way to get married. One night I drove north into the Texas mountains. After sunset you could see a dark band along the eastern horizon. It was the earth's shadow. I wondered if there was a little speck of my shadow sticking up from the earth's edge. I thought about living in Fort Davis.

I remembered a woman who made me give up searching for definitions, temporarily. One night in her apartment I asked her, "What does sex mean to you?" I thought it was important to have that established first. She raised an eyebrow. "Sex is a beautiful thing between two people, and other than that it's not too important."

"Ah," I said. Why had I never learned to answer questions that directly?

"Now that we've got that settled, can we have it?" she asked.

I wondered whether to tell her that women are supposed to spend more time talking. I ran my hand around her waist. She leaned toward me.

It's easier for me to guess what women might like; a woman's body is already familiar to me. I don't think it's narcissistic that I like some things about being with women. The women I know are careful of each other's feelings and are less driven toward a single act of sexual completion than men are. This makes relationships more equal.

She asked me if I was a lesbian. I was anxious. What if she felt deceived? What if she asked me how could I possibly sleep with a man? I would have to say that I like men, that it's exciting to try to understand someone who's different from you, that it's a pleasure I wouldn't give up.

What if she threw me out?

"Not exactly," I said.

"Oh, bisexual?"

"Yeah."

"I think the word *lesbian* should include bisexuals," she said. "We all love women."

It was a generous impulse, but I'm not a lesbian. I don't think the word stretches far enough to include me.

Our shadows met on the ceiling. I thought about telling her that I'm still searching for the right word or the right route or the right place, but I decided against it. That conversation would keep until morning. ■

## NEWS & VIEWS - Debate Continues on Bi Membership of Mardi Gras.

At the annual general meeting of the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras in July, a draft proposal was presented that sought to exclude Bisexuals and Heterosexuals from membership and thus from purchasing tickets to the Mardi Gras Party and Sleaze Ball. There was some hot debate with the matter of bisexual membership not being resolved because the vote was so close and only just favoured bisexual inclusion. While it does not affect the September 30th Sleaze Ball or the 1996 Mardi Gras Party, those bisexuals who feel they are part of the Queer Community and supporters must continue to confront such issues as exclusion of one group or another. Diversity is what the Community thrives upon. Remember 1994, We Are Family!! Of course 1995 is International Year of Tolerance so it seems we will be tolerated for a little longer. There has been some great letters to the editors of Sydney's gay press on the issue & SBSN shown they can address such issues with dignity & facts.

\* Strip Poker \*  
Nite  
Friday 22nd Sept  
8pm Bisexual Centre  
ph (07) 32540692  
Last one at this Centre.

From Harper's Bazaar  
June 1995





# AUSTRALIAN BISEXUAL NETWORK

# MEDIA

# RELEASE

## BISEXUAL PEOPLE SPEAK OUT

Data from the first National Phone-In and previous calls to the helpline have shown bisexual people suffer from unacceptable violence, abuse, discrimination, isolation and lack of community support.

The National Phone-In for bisexual men and women, their partners and family members to report harassment, violence, discrimination and issues of concern relating to their bisexuality, health, relationships, lifestyles, community and the provision of support services was organised over the week-end of August 19 & 20. The Australian Bisexual Network sent information on the Phone-In to over 50 newspapers, radio and television stations from Cairns to Hobart, to Perth and Darwin. A request for their support so that bisexual people and their partners Australia wide had the opportunity to call a 1800 toll free line based at the Bisexual Community Centre in Brisbane was made in a covering letter. Mainstream, gay and alternative media were approached.

Wayne Roberts, ABN Co-Convenor said, "The phone-in gave the Bisexual Network some valuable information on areas of discrimination and issues of concern affecting bisexual people and their partners. Several major areas of concern were identified from callers' reports and ABN will look at ways to address these concerns."

Isolation, lack of information on Bisexuality and having no one they can confide in or talk with were issues raised by men and women in both city and country areas. Fear was another feature that affected people especially men. Fear of their feelings, fantasies and dreams about other men, fear of becoming homosexual, fear of disclosure and the loss of family and friends and fear of HIV infection were some of the fears that worried men causing varying degrees of anxiety, guilt, depression and stress. Wayne Roberts says, "The only way many of these fears can be tackled is through greater community education and awareness which includes information in schools, libraries and community support organisations about bisexuality and bisexual relationships and lifestyles. Of course for some this is a controversial issue but education is far better than the social costs that are at presents being born by governments and the community."

Violence, extortion and discrimination were also issues reported by bisexual people to the Centre. Like gay men and lesbians, bisexual men and women are subject to violence and harassment.

*Caring About Our Health & Well-Being Is Caring About The Community.*

*Australian Bisexual Network*

*Bisexual Community Centre*

PO Box 490, Lutwyche, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia 4030

Telephone 61-7-3254 0692 / 07-3254 0692 or 1800-653 223 free call outside Brisbane metro area

*Member of the International Lesbian & Gay Association*



Some bisexual married men reported physical attacks, robbery and extortion. All incidents went unreported to the police and anti-violence groups in the gay community. Fear of disclosure to spouse, family, work and friends, was the driving factor in not reporting the incident.

Violence and abuse is also an issue for women. Some married bisexual women were subjected to both physical and sexual abuse by their straight male partners if they did not bring another woman into the relationship for him to share. Some women partners of bisexual men have also reported physical and mental abuse following confrontation over their husband's sexuality. More awareness of support systems for both bisexual women and the female partners of bisexual men are needed.

Wayne Roberts said, "Anti-Violence Groups established by the Lesbian and Gay Communities need to promote their services to the community at large so that bisexual people as well as non-scene gay men and lesbians are aware of and have access to the reporting and support services of these Anti-Violence Groups. Not every queer person has access to gay and lesbian newspapers."

Discrimination was also raised by callers. Two Sydney bisexual men living with HIV felt support for bisexual men in predominantly gay HIV support groups was needed. Both found the groups valuable but negative attitudes to their bisexual identity by some participants hindered their full involvement and benefit from the groups. One suggested that a group for bisexual men and women living with HIV and AIDS may be needed.

Greater HIV prevention education campaigns specifically targeting bisexual men and women were needed as many callers to the Centre did not consider they were gay or lesbian and had little or no access to campaigns so visible to those with-in the gay and lesbian communities.

Some bisexual callers who rang from Sydney, consider they are part of Sydney's lesbian and gay community. They expressed concern over the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras draft proposal to exclude bisexuals and heterosexuals from membership and thus from the Mardi Gras Party and Sleaze Ball. They viewed this as a discriminatory move based on their sexual identity when the real issue was homophobia and violence at gay and lesbian events.

It was evident from the lack of calls from certain regions that not all media approached, chose to support and publicise the national phone-in. By depriving their readers or audience of the opportunity to report violence and discrimination, they have in fact condoned such violence and discrimination in their community.

ABN cares about the health and well-being of bisexual women and men and their partners. This in turn is caring about the community at large. People can still call the phone-line to report issues or seek information and support during the Centre's hours of operation, currently Monday to Thursday 6-8pm and Saturday and Sunday 2-6pm on (07) 32540692 or toll free on 1800-653223.

The national information and support helpline operated by the Australian Bisexual Network has proved to be a vital link and lifeline for Australia's bisexual community. Despite the fact that the helpline and other services of ABN receive no government funding they have operated for 20 months with the support of the membership, volunteers and donations. With the Bisexual Community Centre having to move out of its rent free premises by October 1st, such services to the community and to bisexual people in need will be placed in jeopardy unless funded or rent free premises are found.

For further information contact:- Wayne Roberts on (07) 38572774 before 9am EST

*Wayne Roberts*  
*27 August 1995.*

(07) 32688532 work

(07) 32540692 after 6pm until 9pm



By Kirsty Chestnutt

# Bisexuality

Ahhhh, the very word conjures up an array of images — Madonna, married men who fuck men in public toilets on the weekend, luscious threesomes, daggy middle-aged former straights who sit around in support meetings. Sometimes I wonder why I identify this way and don't just settle for something innocuous like het or lesbian, depending on who I am seeing/sleeping with at the time. I would have more exciting role models at least.

However, I feel a certain obligation to be out as a bisexual woman. There seem to be so few of us about, and certainly very few around my tender age. I want to stand up and shout, "I'm bi! I know it's a daggy term, but I am what I am!". I want people to know that we are here, and queer, and to ensure the end of anti-bisexual discrimination in my lifetime! I want to fight for bisexual issues!

Hang on a tick. Bisexual issues? What the fuck are bisexual issues?

A while ago I tried to answer this question. It wasn't obvious to me what I should be fighting for or against. When I have been involved in bisexual forums, I have heard comments such as, "Bisexuals face discrimination from both the straight and gay and lesbian communities" and "Bisexuals are blamed for the spread of HIV" and "Most people think that bisexuals are only misfits who can't make up their minds". At first I thought that everyone must hate me because I am bisexual.

The more I thought about myself and my



Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras parade, 1993. Photo by Murray Addison.

experience (as a very out queer), the more I thought that this wasn't true. I must say that I have not found anyone who thought any less of me simply because I was bisexual, not anyone who mattered anyway. I have been brave enough to be out and face the consequences — strangely enough, there haven't been any.

The conclusion I came to after reviewing these facts was rather interesting and I hope a little short-sighted. Quite frankly, the one real "issue" facing bisexuals as a group (we're hardly a community) that I could find is bisexual invisibility. This is not to say that bisexuals don't have many things to fight for because of

our sexuality, but bisexual invisibility is the one thing that is "ours".

Let me explain. Bisexuals have to combat homophobia on a day-to-day basis, but that is not because we are bisexual, but rather because some part of our lives involves feelings for members of the same sex, the exercise of which can lead to homophobic reaction. We also fight for the rights of same sex couples, not because we are bisexual per se, but because we may be involved in a same sex relationship at some time.

Why should this be a problem? Shouldn't I be happy that bisexuals are not directly targeted?

Well yes, it is nice that I can walk down a suburban street with a girlfriend and be called a "fucking dyke" rather than a "bloody bisexual", or go into a cafe on Oxford Street with a boyfriend and be thought of as a "breeder" rather than a "fence sitter". But the fact that people assume is a big enough problem for me.

This invisibility is the one thing that bisexuals can fight against as bisexuals. When I first came out at 17, a number of people said that I was the first bisexual they knew. How bizarre: I thought we were everywhere.

Maybe this invisibility is caused by the lack of identifiable "bisexual" symbols. Besides wearing a yin-yang (a dubious symbol, to say the least) there is no real way to impart non-verbally that one is bi. I have taken to wearing my freedom rings 90% of the time so that people don't assume that I am straight. But then should I go to pains to make clear that I am not lesbian either? Should one be more ashamed of being perceived as straight than gay?

Another reason could be the relatively daggy image of bisexuals. Why be bi when you can be cool and gay or a Newtown dyke? I am one of the many who eschews the term bi for this reason, and I often prefer queer as an identifying statement (the politics of which I am not even going to touch).

There are a number of other problems facing bisexuals, and queerdom in general would be well served by an upsurge in bi activity. There is still a lot of education to do to show that bisexuality is a valid option and not something people should be ashamed of.

So all I can say is that bisexuals should come out of the closet, come up with a communal name (I'm sick of saying I'm bisexual. Do you ever hear a dyke/fag/poofter/lesbo/queen say I'm homosexual?) and stand up. Stop thinking we are oppressed and just be bi (ugh) and proud. Scream, "We're here and we are hip!" until you actually believe it.

Well, I don't believe it yet, but I'm working on it. ■

GREEN LEFT August 16, 1995 9

## MELBOURNE INTER-UNIVERSITIES GAY AND LESBIAN STUDIES SEMINAR

\*\*\*\*\*

Dennis Altman  
LaTrobe University  
Politics Department

### The Emergence of Global Gay Identities

There are signs in almost every part of the world of the spread of western modes of being homosexual, and over the past decade 'gay' and 'lesbian' groups and communities have appeared in a number of countries of the developing world. This seminar seeks to explore the extent to which these are superficial copyings of western models as against responses to local conditions, and to interrogate the assumptions of the international lesbian/gay movement about a common global identity which is the basis for a new sort of global political movement.

Free seminar, all welcome, dinner to follow.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tuesday September 12th, 1995, 6 pm - 7.30 pm

Centre for the study of STD, Latrobe University, 11-13  
Lincoln Square, South Carlton



## NEWS & VIEWS - Rise in New HIV Infections in NSW.

New HIV infections in New South Wales, particularly Sydney, took a rise in the first half of 1995. Significant increases were reported for young men 15 to 24 who have sex with men, not gay men as reported by some media, in men 35 to 44 and in women. While most other states have been quick to report that no such increases have occurred for them, WA has recorded a rise in new --->

infections/diagnoses in women. Women who are the partners of bisexual men appear to be the main group where this has occurred. Given that information one wonders is it a similar situation in NSW. Are most of the new infections in women attributed to a bisexual male partner? Is there a correlation between the rise in men and the rise in women? Could it be that more bisexually active men are becoming infected thus infecting their other male and female partners? This ABN doesn't know and it certainly is not being reported. --->

## ON THE INTERNET - the AusGBLF.

The AusGBLF mailing list is a mailing list set up to cater to the Australian Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and other non-heterosexually identifying people, and their friends. There are no hard and fast regulations as to who can join. You are not expected to conform to any Australian Standards for Queerness. You do not have to be a fully paid up, card carrying "Homosexual". You do not have to be out. Heck... heterosexuals are also welcome. It is a queer space, so any violently anti-queer expressions will be dealt with very harshly. While the list is primarily oriented toward australians, overseas visitors are more than welcome.

Its name is an historical artifact, coming originally (i think) from a queer channel on irc called +gbf (later #gbf). The list originally was started by James Hall at RMIT. He has since managed to acquire a nice cushy well paid job, and the list moved to its current location.

There is no hard and fast charter for the mailing list. It is envisaged that the list will be used for at least the following purposes:

- \* Announcements of events
- \* Reporting and discussion of news of interest to queer australians
- \* Discussion of all manner of things of interest to queer australians
- \* Activism - action alerts etc.
- \* Questions, information sharing etc.

....  
the list goes on....

What is deemed inappropriate would include things such as crass commercialism; Geoff Kennett; rabidly racist, sexist, biphobic, heterophobic or homophobic diatribe; irrelevant postings etc.

As I said, there is no hard and fast charter.

Now to the administrative stuff....

To join the mailing list, send email to:

majordomo@bizo.biz.usyd.edu.au

with the single line:

subscribe crux

in the body of the text.

Upon joining, it would be nice if you could introduce yourself to the group. A little information on who you are, where you come from, what your interests are and suchlike would be wonderful.

thanx,  
Chris Albone  
ASCM Sexuality Project Coordinator  
AusQRD Maintainer (<http://www.biz.usyd.edu.au/QRD>,  
email: [ausqrd@www.biz.usyd.edu.au](mailto:ausqrd@www.biz.usyd.edu.au))  
AusGBLF Maintainer

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) will receive from the Commonwealth AIDS & Communicable Diseases Education Unit, \$600,000 for a new gay men's safer sex education campaign to be launched next January. Though the end result of a year long evaluation of education campaigns for gay men and consultations with community groups, the linking of this funding with the rise in new infections in NSW should be seen as scandalous. Why?? A similar evaluation of non-gay men who have sex with men education campaigns was carried out. Funds to an equivalent amount were allocated, a national and various state committees were set up, a national advertising campaign with a 1800 number was planned. What has happened to this campaign? It has been postponed because the Commonwealth would not provide funds to train volunteers or staff who would have to take the calls from these non-gay men. In the mean time it would appear more bisexual and other non-gay identifying men and their female and male partners become infected. No campaigns target specifically bisexual identified men and in many states there is nothing for their female partners either.

If the Commonwealth's EU and AFAO can fund HIV education campaigns targetting gay men then they should also be able to fund campaigns targetting bisexual men and others for non-gay/bi men and for the women. ♀



## with Lance Spurr

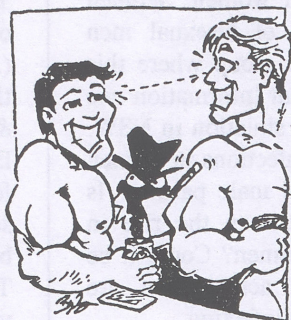
WHEN  
STRAIGHT  
BOYS STRAY

**D**istressed of Deepdene writes to ask: "What should I do when I encounter a friend who I had previously believed to be straight in a situation which makes it quite clear he is gay? Like when I bump into him at the sauna?"

Dear Distressed: This is indeed a difficult question of etiquette. The answer is that everyone should be treated in a manner appropriate to the situation in which they have placed themselves. Your erstwhile straight friend has come to a gay men's venue. He should therefore be treated as though he belongs there. If he doesn't want to be treated as one of the family, he will make it clear soon enough by saying, "Uhh, I'm just here to fix the airconditioning," or (if he has more imagination) "Uhh, I was abducted by aliens at the Metro and when I regained consciousness here I was."

So, if (to take Distressed's example) you encounter a friend coming out of a cubicle at the sauna, dressed only in nipple clamps and a thin coating of sweat and attached by a collar and leash to a large man in a leather mask, you should not exclaim in shocked tones, "Brian! What the fuck are you doing here?!" Nor, on the other hand, should you embrace him while squealing, "Sweetie, darling! Welcome to heaven! I always knew you were a sister!" No. You should smile in a friendly but restrained way, nod respectfully to the large man in the leather mask, and go about your business.

You should, but you probably won't, and neither would I. Etiquette is all very well, but some situations are just too good to pass up. What I would probably do in these circumstances is to smirk and say, "You can tell me all about this in the office on Monday, Brian," or words to that effect, just to let him know I'm not going to forget about *this* in a



hurry. Straight, indeed!

Distressed's inquiry, though, raises some deeper questions. Why do heretofore straight boys suddenly pop up (so to speak) at the sauna, raising difficult questions of etiquette for nice young queens from Deepdene?

The most obvious explanation, of course, is that they were gay all along but just hadn't summoned the nerve to tell anyone. Perhaps they were suffering under some crippling sexual inhibition, such as Catholicism, which prevented them from coming out effortlessly at fifteen and a half, already wearing Calvins and doing Patsy imitations.

But perhaps it goes deeper than that. Perhaps these erstwhile straights are...(theme music from *Jaws* rises ominously in background)...bisexual. Oh dear. I am sorry if you were eating when I uttered that word. I know it's a deeply distasteful subject, but it must be faced. There are bisexuals in the world, just as there is John Howard, and there is no use pretending otherwise. It may be that your friend was being perfectly truthful when he told you of his desire to marry Elle McPherson and make babies in suburbia *in perpetuo*, but that he just neglected to tell you about his other fantasies, the ones involving the Brazilian junior soccer team, three litres of KY and a length of rubber hose.

But why can't bisexuals go to their own venues, you ask? The answer is of course, that there is no such thing as a bisexual venue: bisexuality is a state of mind, not a sexual practice. No-one is bisexual at any given moment: there being only two genders (most of the time) specific sexual

desire (as opposed to generalised sexual fantasy) must be directed towards one or the other, even if alternatively. So at the moment of truth, which is usually on Saturday night at about 4am, your self-defined bisexual must decide between King St and Peel St, and he'd better hurry before all the talent gets taken.

The third possibility is that our heretofore heterosexual has actually, genuinely, crossed over. It does happen. Straight men go to bed one night, thinking straight-type thoughts about whether the Dogs will make the Eight, and wake up in the morning and say, "Oh my God! Who painted the ceiling that *ghastly* colour?!" They stagger to the kitchen where they find only beer and beer for breakfast. They open the door to die.

## BISEXUALITY IS A MYTH

"When a man says he's bisexual, what he's actually saying is, he's gay. But it's easier for these men to say they're 'bisexual' than to confront their homosexuality head-on," says an executive officer of the Gay Counselling Service of NSW. He believes the social pressures on homosexual men are enormous. "There are those who manage to 'come out' and openly admit to being homosexual, but many others who can't. The latter quite often are those who call themselves bisexual."

These men see their peers with female partners, they themselves may have no access to a gay lifestyle and very often fear identification with a group portrayed as "limp-wristed screaming queens". So they succumb to a formula lifestyle, and they decide to marry.

"A lot of gay men suppress their sexuality, but it usually catches up with them in the end," says the counsellor. "Many men go through hell because they think they are the only ones with this dilemma: their only release is in anonymous sexual encounters. It might be a public toilet at lunchtime or a brief and furtive meeting while walking the dog after dinner."

Bob Hay, counsellor at the University of New South Wales, in a paper he presented at a Canberra conference on gay lifestyles points out that — conservatively — probably at least half the homosexuals in Australia are married.

The article to the left by Lance Spurr appeared in the Melbourne Star Observer on August 11, 1995. It triggered considerable discussion and comments on AusGBLF and in MSO itself. While it could be taken as tongue in cheek humour, such a comment is usually founded in the real beliefs of the author. Like previous letters and articles in Sydney's gay press, such comment regardless of how it is ment to be viewed helps to develop negative images and beliefs about bisexual men and women & bisexuality in general.

The snippet to the top right is from an article titled "is there a MAN in your MAN'S life?" which appeared in Cleo back in November 1987. Have these views of bisexual men really changed much in the past 8 years?



## Is there any Bi Groups in Costa Rica???

Bisexual groups are not known by myself neither in Costa Rica nor in Central America, but for being sure I faxed your mail to Jos = E9 Carrasquero, friend, member of our movement and editor of Costa Rica's only g/l magazin "Gente 10".

If somebody knows, he does.

The reason for not having bisexual groups in my opinion is caused by the missing tolerance of both: heterosexuals and bisexuals in Central America.

In the total chauvinistic "macho" world of Latin America, being gay or lesbian is not accepted at all. The catholic church don't miss any occasion to declare that homosexuals are against God and nature and that AIDS is the curse sent by God for our immoral existence. Beside open homosexuality is impossible (beside we are starting to fight by being openly gay/lesbian, like some other few groups in Central America), everything which is done hiddenly doesn't matter!!

In Costa Rica that behaviour is almost at it's perfection. We have gay priests all over stating the church's opinion but fucking around with men and even children, high clerical authorities in Costa Rica are NOT an exception.

But fucking around with men is not considered gay or bisexual as long as it happens hidden somewhere without other members of our hipocratic society getting hold of it. It's more like a sport and more to release sexual pressure of unsatisfying marriages. In fact I have not found any "straight" man who wouldn't have sex with men, when only the time and circumstance (6-pack of beer ofently is enough to lower the mental barrier) were right!

=46or this hipocratic behaviour there is no need to have bisexual groups because officially there are no bisexual persons. But everybody knows the "making hidden sex - game" and everybody tolerates that like being part of being a "straight" Latino!

The gays and lesbians are mostly not tolerated for coming out of the closet. Having gay bars/discos and going to such places is making the statement that there are gay/lesbians in our society and that there's a need to have own places to go to. This is not well fitting in catholic moral and for not being hidden any more cannot be tolerated by society. And that's the reason why gay/lesbian places are again and again targets of riots and discriminations, although the highest constitutional supreme court in Costa Rica decided this year that gay/lesbians are to be treated igually by law and constitution and that they are allowed to create their own stores, bars, discos, hotels whenever they do not disturb anybody.

San Jose's gay/lesbian disco "Deja Vu" tried to open for a more tolerant public including bisexuals (in Costa Rica called "bugas") and had to restrict the access for not gay/lesbian visitors again.

=46or gays/lesbians being not yet tolerated by not even bisexuals (see above named reasons) some of the bisexual visitors of "Deja Vu" started to amuse themselves about gay/lesbian couples and to make fun out of them.

As long as our g/l movement has not gathered power and therefore gained respect from society, church and government, many bisexuals will not accept gay/lesbians as normal and therefore continue to play jokes about us.

But we are doing quite well in gaining power and respect, so there is a hope that we can join the evolution of worldwide gay/lesbian groups to include bisexuals in our movement.

The difficulty is to convince bisexuals that they are under the same critic and discrimination by church and society as gay/lesbians are and that they therefore should respect us and join our fight! This is so difficult for the tolerated same sex actions if the stay hidden. Therefore bisexuals are not having any problem to have there coming out and they don't see a need

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

## BISexual GROUPS

Sydney - SBSN

Info Line 0055-25926

Melbourne - BAM

(03) 98770224

Mon + Tue 7:30pm - 10:30pm

Adelaide - ABC

Sabina -

(08) 3525715

Brisbane - ABN

QBN (Brisbane)

(07) 32540642

Perth - WABN

(09) 3542737 d/h

Gold Coast - QBN

David -

(07) 55271152

Rockhampton - QBN

Delour -

(079) 277369

Canberra - CRBN

PO Box 458

Civic Square

ACT 2608.

Hobart - HBSN

G. Myke Dobber

TELRG

GPO Box 1733

Hobart

TAS 7001

Lismore -

Contact ABN.



to join us!!!!

But be assured that our movement will try to change that situation!

When bisexuals join finally our fight for sexual identity our soon to be found political movement could gain a very important power for the next elections and for the first time in Costa Rica influence the national politics!!!!

We don't want to miss that chance!!!!

Thanks you very much for your support!

I hope that my answer could give you the needed answers. For any question about Central America and especially Costa Rica please feel free to contact me anytime!

warmest regards

Harald

## **CARBON COPY - LETTERS**

You will find a number of letters that have been sent to others eg. Peter Beattie, Melbourne Star Observer, Sydney Star Observer, Buenos Aires over issues that affect us as bisexuals.

Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 13:06:09 +0100 (BST)

From: "3151.MBA\_FULL\_TIME CAROLAN.F\_9332911" <esg824@sets.ulst.ac.uk>

To: robertw@planet

Subject: Attn. Mr. Peater Beattie, Minister for Health

Hi Wayne

Here's a copy of the letter I sent to Mr. Beattie. I wish you every success in your campaign.

Dear Mr. Beattie,

I am writing from Belfast in Northern Ireland to express my support for the Bisexual Centre in Brisbane. As you are probably aware they are threatened with eviction and need to secure \$12000 to rent alternative premises and continue providing the invaluable service.

As Minister for Health you should be familiar with the cliché "prevention is better than cure". The work they are doing in terms of providing information on safer sex and free condoms, in providing support for people who would otherwise feel isolated and for providing a focus for the Bisexual Community will in the long run potentially save your Government Department thousands of dollars in treating people for sexually transmitted illnesses including HIV related illnesses, dealing with nervous breakdowns and counselling services.

I feel that the government needs to publicly acknowledge and welcome people of all sexual orientation and especially support citizens when they are willing to support themselves

Remember Bisexuals, Gays and Lesbians can vote too.

Yours Sincerely

Fidelma Carolan



Date: Thu, 17 Aug 1995 15:47:06 +1000 (EST)  
From: Wayne Roberts <robertw>  
To: Alejandra SARDA <ales@wamani.apc.org>  
Cc: robertw@planet.mh.dpi.qld.gov.au  
Subject: Support for Anti-Violence Rally in Argentina.

Greetings to the peace loving citizens of Argentina from the members of the Australian Bisexual Network.

The Australian Bisexual Network condemns all violence and brutality and especially where it is instigated by people of authority who are responsible for protecting the civil rights of all citizens.

We condemn the raids on two gay clubs in Argentina this month and the subsequent intimidation and brutality of the patrons and staff of those clubs by members of Argentina's police force.

The Australian Bisexual Network calls on the Government of Argentina to protect the civil and human rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexual men and women, transvestites and transsexuals, young people and those who may speak out in the name of free speech as the Government would any other citizen of Argentina.

We support the individuals and groups assembled in Buenos Aires today, August 17th, in their call for equality of all and an Argentina free of violence, brutality and intimidation of any group of citizens or visitors.

On behalf of the members of the Australian Bisexual Network, we wish you all a safe and peaceful rally.

Yours Sincerely

Wayne Roberts and Kate Hickson

ABN Co-Convenors

Australian Bisexual Network  
PO Box 490  
Lutwyche  
Brisbane  
Queensland  
Australia 4030

61-7-32540692

## NEWS - Buenos Aires Rally Aug 17th.

From: ales  
To: robertw  
Subject: thanks for your letter  
Date: Thursday, 24 August 1995 1:50PM

To Wayne Roberts and Kate Hickson:

Thank you so much for your support letter. It was read at the rally and strongly appreciated by all activists involved. (Those who met Wayne in Buenos Aires send him special greetings)

The rally was indeed safe and peaceful, as you wished. It had quite an impact on the media: we were in most newspapers' front pages and TV news reports! It is very important that such violations to our Human Rights do not stay un denounced.

The rally was part of a more comprehensive campaign we are doing for the derogation of Police Edicts, a body of legal measures issued by the Police itself, with no intervention from the Legal authorities. In this regard, we are working very closely with the Students Federation and other Human Rights organization. We are collecting signatures and also lobbying congresswomen/men. In "Action Alert"'s next issue you will find more details about this campaign and also a request for sending protest letters to the authorities.

Once again, thank you for your cooperation.

Warm regards,

Alejandra Sarda ales@wamani.apc.org

## CARBON COPY - LETTERS

### Not good enough

I have a request to make, one that will involve the reader in a little thinking (scary idea?).

This is being penned by a young woman who is out at work, a member of her Queer Women's group at uni, does occasional volunteer work in the community, is a trainee for the Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service and has been a party marshal for two years of Mardi Gras and Sleaze. Yes, you think, sounds like many people I know, what's her point?

The point is that some members of Mardi Gras have said they would not welcome me as a member because I identify as bisexual, and am proud enough of it to tick a box that says so. Ostracised by straights for loving women, and now possibly excluded by lesbians/gays because I love men, sounds lonely doesn't it?

So, I ask every current member of Mardi Gras to pause and think when they next receive a helping hand or just a smile from someone in the community. How would that person feel if you told them they weren't good enough? Would they be there next time?

Lizz Kopecny, Kings Cross

ABN has a new  
Lismore contact  
person, Brian.  
For info call ABN  
on 07-32540692.



## SCIENCE FICTION and FANTASY - Part 2

From the Internet.

In the June/July issue of National Biways we featured Part 1 of Science Fiction and Fantasy Books with Bisexual themes and characters. Here are some more authors and titles to look out for. If you buy or have any of these, read them and don't want them, then think of donating them to the Bisexual Community Centre for others to enjoy.

The list is arranged by author, whether science fiction (SF) or fantasy (F), title and comments.

DELANY, Samuel (highly recommended)

Babel-17 (SF)

Dhalgren (SF) (explicit bisexual scenes, alternative lifestyles, gay leatherman, s/m).

Stars in My Pocket Like Grains of Sand (SF) (galactic gay love story; includes a gay bathhouse scene where the main character makes it with the native insect-like intelligence on his home planet).

Tides of Lust (F) (everybody doing everybody).

DUANE, Diane (F) (bisexuality is the norm; positive; good writer)

Door into Fire

Door into Shadow

Door into Sunset

Door into Starlight (forthcoming)

FANCHER, Jane S. (trilogy with bisexual male protagonists)

Groundties

Uplink

Harmonies of the Net

FARMER, Philip Jose (bisexual vampires)

Image of the Beast

Blown

A Feast Unknown

Lord of the Trees/The Mad Goblin

The Lovers

Strange Relations

HEINLEIN, Robert A. (SF)

I Will Fear No Evil (male becomes bisexual female)

Stranger in a Strange Land (bisexual male protagonist)

Number of the Beast

The Moon is a Harsh Mistress (clan marriages, line marriages)

Time Enough for Love (bisexual incest, in an odd kind of way)

Friday (bisexual female protagonist)

The Cat Who Walks Through Walls (homosexual encounter)

To Sail Beyond the Sunset

HUFF, Tanya (F)

Fire's Stone (homosexuality)

Blood Price (bisexual male vampire)

Blood Trail (bi male vampire)

Child of the Grove

The Last Wizard

JENNINGS, Gary

Raptor (hermaphrodite protagonist)

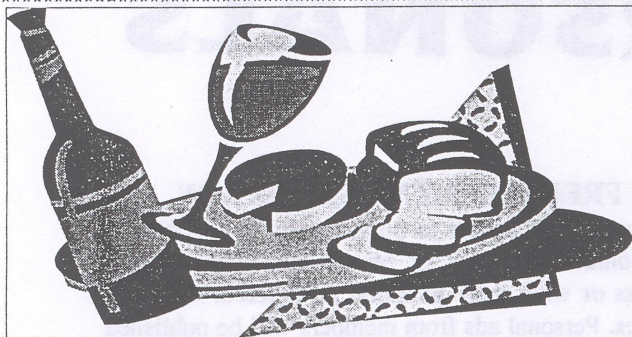
Aztec (lesbian and bisexual scenes)

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE



# AUSTRALIAN BISEXUAL NETWORK

## SOCIAL PARTY NITE



**DATE & TIME** Saturday  
September 9th  
8pm to late

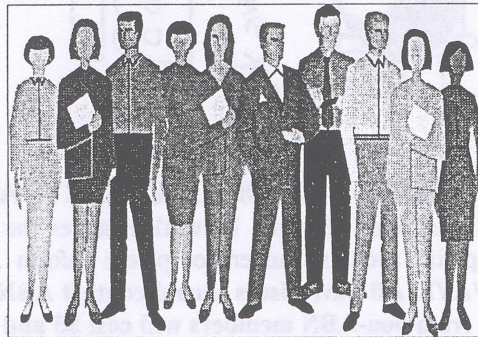
**PLACE** Bisexual Community Centre  
16 Annie Street  
New Farm, Brisbane.

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW** ABN Members \$1.00  
Non-Members \$3.00  
Wine, Softdrink, Juice,  
Coffee, Snacks Provided.  
BYO Beer & Spirits.  
All Bi & Bi-Friendly Folk  
Welcome to Attend.  
No Drunks, Pushy People  
or Loud Noise Allowed.

Contact Bisexual Community Centre on (07) 32540692 or 1800-653223

# AUSTRALIAN BISEXUAL NETWORK

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**DATE & TIME** Sunday  
September 10th  
3pm

**PLACE** Bisexual Community Centre  
16 Annie Street  
New Farm, Brisbane.

**AGENDA** ABN Report.  
Election of Officers.  
Election of Council Reps.  
Allowing others on to the  
Management Committee.  
Fate of Bisexual Centre.

To all ABN members please make an effort to attend the AGM, have your say and have a vote for the resolutions and motions put forward. If you are a non-member or need to renew your membership you can join up or renew prior to the meeting from 2pm.  
Food and Drinks will be provided afterward.

Contact Bisexual Community Centre on (07) 32540692 or 1800-653223

## SYDNEY BISEXUAL SUPPORT NETWORK

General Information: 0055 25926

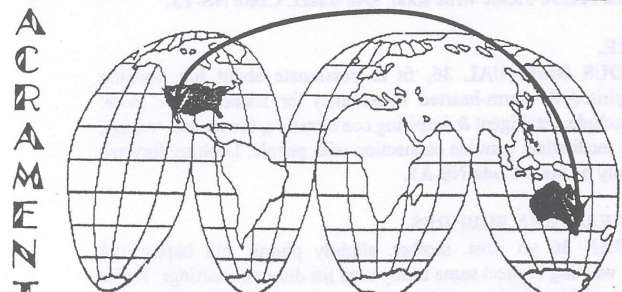
**MONTHLY MONDAY MEETING** 8 PM  
NCOSS  
Former Children's Court  
66 Albion Street  
(cnr Commonwealth Street)  
Surry Hills

**SEPT 11**

Michael Scheper (alias MikZ)

talks about ...

## SEXUALITY



A first hand comparison of bisexuality in America and Australia

- including
- Castro St vs. Oxford St
- Sexuality and the church

MEETING ENQUIRIES ONLY: Linda 550 9625

## NATIONAL BISEXUAL PHONE-IN

by the AUSTRALIAN BISEXUAL NETWORK

Monday to Thursday

6pm to 9pm

Saturday and Sunday

2pm to 6pm



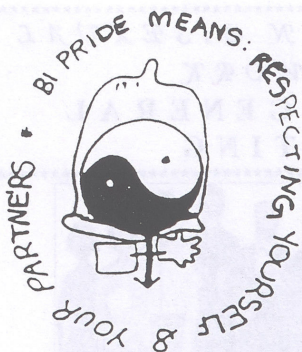
BISEXUAL MEN and BISEXUAL WOMEN  
and the PARTNERS/FAMILIES of BISEXUAL PEOPLE  
are invited to call the Bisexual Community Centre to report  
INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE, HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION,  
ISSUES OF CONCERN RELATING TO YOUR  
BISEXUALITY INCLUDING SEXUAL IDENTITY, HEALTH,  
FAMILY, RELATIONSHIPS, LIFESTYLE,  
THE PROVISION OF SERVICES & COMMUNITY.

TELEPHONE

**(07) 3254 0692**

1 800 - 653223 (toll free outside Brisbane)  
or write to PO Box 490 Lutwyche Q 4030





# BI

# PERSONALS

**THESE PERSONAL ADVERTS ARE PUBLISHED FREE FOR MEMBERS OF ABN.**

The Australian Bisexual Network reserves the right to edit offensive ads or refuse to publish ads. If you have a complaint about an advertiser please inform ABN and we will contact advertiser or remove personal ad from BIWAYS. **All advertisers should contact ABN if they move address or wish their personal ad deleted. Personal Ads from non-ABN members will cost \$5 and appear for two issues.** Personal ads from members will be published for four issues of BIWAYS then deleted automatically unless renewed by advertiser. ABN does not accept any liability or responsibility for ads published in BIWAYS or that appear on the NOTICEBOARD at the Bisexual Centre.

**ABN advises all readers to only have SAFER SEX (use condoms & dams & plenty of water based lubricant).**

## HOW TO REPLY TO ADVERTS: WRITTEN REPLIES ONLY.

1. Place your reply in a sealed stamped envelope.
2. Write the advert CODE on the front centre or top right of envelope.
3. Put this envelope together with \$3 or \$5 for two replies in another envelope (stamps, money order or cheque accepted).
4. Post it to ABN, PO Box 490, Lutwyche, Queensland 4030 or leave it with the desk at the Bisexual Centre.

### AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY (ACT).

#### **CANBERRA.**

**BI GUY** cute blonde guy early 20's, Canberra, seeks males/females. I am 167cm tall, fit, professional. You 20 to 26 years also fit & attractive & non-scene. **Code AC-T1.**

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA (SA).

#### **ADELAIDE.**

**COUPLE** bisexual woman 24, straight man 36, seek bisexual woman between 20 & 35 for friendship with view to a permanent relationship. We are not into scene, do not smoke & are social drinkers. **Code SA-H1.**

#### **ADELAIDE.**

**BI MALE** seeking similar Woman Friend to explore & enjoy life. High trust given and expected.....By a 43 yo male - very mildly bisexual & most comfortable in myself; tall, slim, attractive, well spoken & presentable - healthy, most aware, intelligent, vast interest range, open, unattached, debt free, warm, caring, no dark hang-ups from the past. **Code SA-M1.**

#### **ADELAIDE.**

**BI MAN** youthful 42 yo from north America, of Italian & German descent, clean, healthy, attractive, educated, non-scene. I am seeking a bi-lady who is seeking a relationship based on honesty and caring, who enjoys sharing herself and enjoys receiving respect from her man. I am Taurus the Bull and only seek compatible people. Children are most welcome as I am a father of two and I enjoy family life. Genuine responses welcome & I will answer all. **Code SA-R1.**

#### **ADELAIDE.**

**BI GUY** 30 seeks well hung guy 18 to 35 yrs for oral. Photo appreciated but not necessary. Send SSAE. All letters answered. **Code SA-F1.**

#### **ADELAIDE SOUTHERN SUBURBS.**

**BISEXUAL WOMAN 32, Straight Male 35,** seek bisexual woman 18 - 35 for fun and friendship, long term if suited. Prefer slim, feminine, attractive, any nationality. We are non-smokers, non-scene, healthy and attractive, believe sex should be fun. **Code SA-M4.**

**USE CONDOMS, DAMS & WATER-BASED LUBE  
FOR SAFE FUN TIMES TOGETHER**

#### **ADELAIDE.**

**BI GUY** 48, married, straight acting, 6ft tall, 73kg, med. build, healthy & fit, non-smoker, good-looking, would like to meet similar situated guy for meaningful friendship and safe fun times. **Code SA-A2.**

#### **MODBURY / ADELAIDE.**

**BI MALE** non smoker, clean, sincere 5'7" slim/medium build, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes quiet nights, dinner parties etc, seeks genuine bi male to 40 for friendship possible relationship. I have so much love to give. Please write. **Code SA-M2.**

### NEW SOUTH WALES (NSW).

#### **ALSTONVILLE.**

**BI WOMAN** 21 years seeking a loving caring woman, interested in contacting other caring woman who are overweight. I enjoy outdoor life and looking for a woman from age 21 and over and must like cats. **Code NS-S1**

#### **BALLINA.**

**GUY** single 30's parent, responsible, easy going, average I guess, feel need to try Bi with right caring gentle persons. **Code NS-S2**

#### **CENTRAL COAST.**

**BI WOMAN - STRAIGHT GUY COUPLE** attractive, slim active mid 40's, seeking a special female for a sincere supportive friendship / relationship. Would look forward to travel, theatre, bushwalking, beach. Single parent welcome. **Code NS-H1.**

#### **DENMAN.**

**BI WOMAN** 30ish seeks female letter writers to share intimate experiences. A.L.A. Please write soon, love Shazz. **Code NS-T3.**

#### **LISMORE.**

**GORGEOUS BISEXUAL** 36, fit & passionate about life, seeking equally spirited & warm-hearted Bisexual(s) for friendship or more. Interests include: intelligent & inspiring conversation, the media, writing, honesty & meditation, genuine connection with people. Looking forward to your reply by mail. **Code NS-A1.**

#### **SYDNEY EASTERN SUBURBS.**

**BI WOMAN** 36 yo Aust. mother, slightly plump, but happy and attractive, wanting to meet same in my area for discreet meetings. Prefer woman available during early afternoons and Wednesdays. No relationship, new to this life. **Code NS-K1.**



**SYDNEY.**

**BI WOMAN** attractive, slim bi feminine lady, 30 years old, medium length blond hair, blue eyes. I'm easy going & fun, enjoy movies, the beach, shopping, going out & nights at home. I am seeking a bi/gay female partner with "boyish charms" & a sense of humour or an attractive glam woman. I'm hoping for a loving, caring, sensual, sensitive relationship. A photo would be great. All letters answered. **Code NS-T4.**

**SYDNEY.**

**COUPLE** We are a young couple in a long-term committed relationship who wish to meet an attractive Bi girl (any age) for friendship & threesomes. We would be happy to put up any interstate travellers and show you around. **Code NS-M1.**

**SYDNEY.**

**BISEXUAL COUPLE M/F GENUINE**, seeking other Bi couples for regular safe sex evening. We are mid 30's, clean, healthy, discrete, highly sexed and fun loving. All replies will be answered & photos can be posted in exchange for yours. **Code NS-H2.**

**SYDNEY.**

**BI GUY** quite attractive, early to mid 20's, seeks same. Looking for friendship, and an opportunity to explore the higher side of the Kinsay Scale. Must be somebody who enjoys life, is positive-thinking and not afraid to express true feelings and beliefs. **Code NS-S3.**

**SYDNEY.**

**BI GUY** young, slim, attractive, in cosy gay relationship seeks girl or slim M/F couple under 40 for occasional warm safe fun times. **Code NS-P2.**

**SYDNEY.**

**BI GUY** 29 yo, average looks, 87 kg, seeks 30+ who is also married too teach inexperienced guy the ways, must be discrete, a mo a plus, first ad, all letters answered. **Code NS-B4.**

**SYDNEY.**

**BI GUY** 35, slim, good looking, gentle, 6ft tall and healthy, seek safe fun times with slim guy, girl or couple under 40. I'm nervous at first but have open good humoured nature. Open to longer term relationship. **Code NS-P3.**

**SYDNEY.**

**BI MALE** seeking easy going bi (female/male) couple, for correspondence and relationship. I travel regularly inter-state, am married so confidentiality a must. Photo please. **Code NS-T2.**

**SYDNEY, NSW to GOLD COAST, QLD.**

**BI GUY** 37yr, traveller seeks similar guy to cruise the night spots to pick up girls - if not we have each other. Enjoys oral. **Code NS-J1.**

**TWEED COAST, NSW / GOLD COAST, QLD.**

**BI COUPLE** seeking SAME SEX partners 18 to 43 years. He wants a man. She wants a woman. Threesome a possibility later. We are 30ish, clean, honest. Safe sex a must. **Code NS-M3.**

**HIV and AIDS ARE PREVENTABLE  
INSIST ON SAFER SEX EVERY TIME**

**QUEENSLAND (QLD).**

**BRISBANE.**

**LADY BI-NOVICE** attractive, feminine, sensual, slimish but well endowed, open-minded, adventurous, non-smoker, with my act together and happily single. I enjoy the arts, good food & wine, theatre, most things creative, outdoors, sailing & stimulating company. I seek an experienced bi woman, no objection to straight husband, for hassle free companionship or social outings. Age around 35 to 55. Discretion, safety and sense of humour essential. Phone number please. ALA. **Code QD-S10.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI WOMAN** early 40's wishes to meet slim bi lady who does not mind if a man joins in. **Code QD-J6.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI WOMAN** 40, teacher, seeks similar bi or gay woman for friendship, mutual support and understanding. **Code QD-B1.**

**BRISBANE.**

**PROFESSIONAL FEMALE** seeks company of Bi woman/lesbian to share own home at Carindale. Prefer responsible, non-smoker who likes dogs. For more details contact Wendy. **Code QD-S16.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI LADY WANTED** by Straight Guy 45 for long term relationship. Must be open minded & adventurous with view to meeting other couples and singles. I will be supportive to the right person and will welcome and answer all responses. **Code QD-S13.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI WOMAN STRAIGHT MAN COUPLE** mid 30's wish to meet Bi lady for friendship, social outings and fun. Discretion assured and expected. **Code QD-M6.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BISEXUAL GUY** seeks a Bi woman aged 25 to 40 for friendship and possible relationship with a view to introducing her to my Bi-curious female partner. **Code QD-C11.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI-GUY** attractive, 58kg, 30 yo, slim medium build, would love to meet other guys, crossdressers, trannies, age open and should be smooth bodied. I have been a crossdresser, could try again with anyone will to experience good safe fun. discrete, write with phone number, ALA. **Code QD-I2.**

**BRISBANE / RED HILL.**

**BI GUY** sincere 22 yo bi, attractive, tanned, 172cm, fit, 70kg, smooth skin, straight acting, non-smoker, non-scene, likes travel, movies, swimming seeks similar young man for friendship and safe discrete sex at your place if right. **Code QD-T4.**

**BRISBANE / WINDSOR.**

**BISEXUAL GUY** good looks, late 20's, like to try Bisex with couple. I like movies, dining out/in, non-smoker, fit & tanned, anything safe if suited. Your photo & phone no. get mine. Please send detailed letter. ALA Trannies okay. **Code QD-D8.**

**BRISBANE / SOUTH EAST QLD.**

**BI GUY** 23 yr old seeking Bi/gay guy up to 30 yo for friendship / relationship. I have blue eyes & mousy blond hair, 6ft 1in, with good body as I work out daily. I am seeking a similar guy who preferably has a great build & near to my height, (footballers, bodybuilders, etc I like). A non-smoker & social drinker would be preferred. No drugs or sexual hang-ups please. For a quick reply, a photo and phone number would be nice. (PS If you know anyone who may be interested please pass this ad on to them.) **Code QD-P3.**

**BRISBANE NORTH / BAYSIDE.**

**MATURE BI GUY** not very experienced would like to meet Bi couple or Bi guy to further experience. **Code QD-K3.**

**BRISBANE.**

**STRAIGHT GUY** tall seeks the company of an attractive feminine Bi lady 30-40 with or without her partner for social & intimate times. All letters answered please include a photo/ph no. **Code QD-S12.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** 20, good looks, would like to meet guys under 30. Must be smart, intelligent and good looking with a personality to match. **Code QD-S17.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** single 35, fair hair, blue eyes, 165cm seeks Bi woman for casual relationship and may be more. **Code QD-N2.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** early 40's recently separated seeking companionship of similar person, married or single, complete discretion assured. **Code QD-R18.**



**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** good looking, fit bi guy, 180cm, 75kg, dark hair, well hung seeks bi girl or couple for very safe discreet sexy times. I travel to Townsville & Mackay also. **Code QD-R11.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI MALE** 44 seeks Bi M/F couple. I would like to try crossdressing with an understanding couple. Can be passive when dressed. I am genuine, clean & discrete. Send descriptive letter with phone number. Meet first if necessary. I am size 14 in clothing. Love silk & satin. **Code QD-M11.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** married, mid 30's straight acting, 178cm tall, 72kg, fair complexion wishes to meet similar situated guy or gay couple. Prefer your place. Discretion given & expected. **Code QD-S8.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** 39 slim smooth body seeks bi guy rugged looks hairy body solid build, mo or beard for mutual oral sex. Like cuddling, kissing, aim to please the right man in every way. Phone, address for quick reply. All letters answered. **Code QD-R12.**

**BRISBANE.**

**GUY** 40 seeking guys 25 and over, tallish with a sense of humour, working, intelligent. I am 6 ft, 90 kg bearded (for now), hairy and tanned, self employed, independent, relationship considered. **Code QD-W5.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI MALE** mid 50's, married, passive when Bi seeks discrete contact with another man in similar situation. **Code QD-J1.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** single 42 yrs. 75kg slim build, wants discrete meetings with Bi Men, Ladies or Couples, mature people only. Discretion assured & expected. Reply with photo/phone number. **Code QD-S2.**

**BRISBANE.**

**BI GUY** 29yo chunky guy average looks seeks guys, girls, trans or couples for fun & friendship & sex if we are suited. All letters answered. Photo & phone if possible. **Code QD-D5.**

**BRISBANE / SUNSHINE COAST.**

**BI GUY** single tall, slim, av looks, good sense of humour would like to meet other slim/medium build bi guys or girls under 35 for friendship, outings, hot sex if we like & possible ongoing relationship. **Code QD-R13.**

**CABOOLTURE.**

**BI WOMAN** 25 yo. Looking to meet similar woman for friendship \ relationship. I have shoulder length blond hair, blue eyes, 173 cm tall & about 70 kg, easy going down to earth kind of person who enjoys the outdoors, camping on the beach, good parties and also quiet nights at home. Photo would be great & all letters answered. **Code QD-W4.**

**CENTRAL QLD.**

**BI GUY** 46 divorced likes fishing, horses, country living, seeks married or single Bi guy for genuine friendship and outings in the country. Sincere people only please. Photo appreciated and phone number for quick reply. **Code QD-D3.**

**GOLD COAST / BRISBANE.**

**GUY** 38 years, slim, would like to try safe sex with couple, have never had a Bi experience but willing to try. This is my first ad. Please reply with photo & phone number for quick reply. **Code QD-J3.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI WOMAN** 24 yo seeking a woman for friendship and possible relationship. I enjoy life, am easy going and like good food, wine and company. **Code QD-D7.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**COUPLE** Bi lady, straight man, 30's seeking Bi lady in 30's for fun times and friendship. All replies answered, please include photo and phone number if possible. **Code QD-H5.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI-SENSUAL LADY WANTED** I am a 31 yo buxom married Bi lady wishing to meet a very similar lady for very close friendship & outings of all sorts, from raging to romantic dinning and all places in between. I am a private non-groupie type, non-smoker, social drinker, honest & reliable. I am tripping to Melbourne in a few months & would love some company. I enjoy body building, music etc. I am looking for a non fake, non-smoker, down to earth genuine lady who is not afraid to be just the way she is. I have an inground pool & would love to spend many oil rubbed senuous days relaxing & swimming there with the right lady, Summer is now upon us. I adore touching, kissing, hugging, walking hand in hand on the beach appeals to me but then so does go-cart racing. This is a first for me, I'm nervous & anxious & hoping there is a great friend out there just waiting to happen. If you're buxom & real please send a photo & letter. I will answer you with same. P.S. What star sign are you? **Code QD-L7.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI GUY** 34 yo, slim likes home life, movies, parties, bush, occasional nightclubs, seeks guy of similar age. **Code QD-O2.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI MAN** 50 single, want to meet younger couples for friendship or relationship and having good times. Also a good looking young woman or guy, slim and having a happy smiling face. Must be easy going in nature. I am 1.80m tall, black hair, brown complexion with Mediterranean looks, a moustash & weigh 83kg. Photo & phone number would be nice. Discretion assured & expected. See you girls, guys & couples. **Code QD-V1.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI GUY** very inexperienced in male to male, would like to meet happy, easy going couple for 3 some. I am 38 yo slim, fit, average height, ok looks, broad minded & friendly. Cleanliness & discretion essential. **Code QD-R10.**

**HIV and AIDS ARE PREVENTABLE  
INSIST ON SAFER SEX EVERY TIME**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI GUY** 31 yo slim, 5'8", fit & healthy. I'm a sole parent, currently also involved with a woman, (understanding of my needs). I'm seeking other young bi males for friendship. **Code QD-S9.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI GUY** fit, well built guy early 30's, looking for couple/s to enjoy life. I love surfing, music, outdoors & generally easy going, social drinker, etc. I am clean, safe sex conscious. Enjoy most things. Keen to hear, please include phone number. **Code QD-M9.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI GUY** slim, attractive 30 year old seeks young transvestite or young couple to 28 years of age for good safe time. Photo appreciated. **Code QD-K1.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI INCLINED GUY** 39 180cm slim with straight attractive girlfriend looking for nice couple for 3 possibly 4 some. Non-smokers only. Absolutely clean. Total discretion expected. Photo & phone number appreciated. **Code QD-C8.**

**GOLD COAST.**

**BI-SENSUAL COUPLE** seek Bi-sensual couple with similar out look on life. We are 31, non fake, nature loving non-smokers, social drinkers, non pushy, fun loving, homely relaxed couple. We enjoy everything from gardening to go-kart racing. Most of all we are honest people interested in a long term relationship. If you fit this ad at all then please don't be shy...drop us a line or ten, perhaps a photo and phone number. We promise to answer your ad the same day. Until then create a great day! **Code QD-L7.**

**LOGAN VILLAGE.**

**BI WOMAN** 54yr old attached lady looks forward to meeting a lady for friendship, mental & physical closeness, sense of humour & plenty of laughs together. **Code QD-R15.**



#### **MACKAY & DISTRICTS.**

**BI GUY** married 46 years old, slim, fit, good looking, would like to meet similar bi guy or couple for good safe fun. **Code QD-C7.**

#### **MONTVILLE / SUNSHINE COAST.**

**COUPLE** seek Bi lady between 20 and 40 if you are attractive, homely & lonely & need loving, we are here for you. Wife 37 Asian with body of 18 yo, husband 50 English (could be father figure for you). We live in the Blackall Rangers, peaceful country living, into the arts, painting, sculpture, massage, tarot, i ching, channelling, troilism etc. Living a quiet but happy life 7 we need to share our good life. We are offering you to share our home and us. Wife loves Bi movies & is ready for the real thing. Husband will just go with the flow so please come & help her find herself. We are both fairly fit, non-smokers, very layed back, lots more to offer, photo would be nice & a phone number & start from there. You could come for a few days to see first. **Code QD-C10.**

#### **QLD. & NSW.**

**BI GUY** 37 slim hot & long, longs for loving couple to please. Enjoys male to male sex with wife present, loves massage, oral, foreplay, safe sex, ALA. **Code NS-J2.**

#### **ROCKHAMPTON.**

**BI COUPLE** 23/33 seek Bi lady, Bi male or couple, any age for fun times, local area only as we can not travel. ALA. Photo & phone number please. **Code QD-S14.**

#### **ROCKHAMPTON.**

**BI GUY** professional, mid 30's, good body seeks similar guy for meaningful friendship, discretion required and given as I am married to a straight lady. Phone number apprec. **Code QD-M13.**

#### **ROCKHAMPTON & CENTRAL QLD.**

**RETIRED BI GENT** seeking younger guy for loving caring friendship. No drugs. Sincere guy please. All letters answered. **Code QD-H7.**

#### **SOUTH EAST QLD.**

**BI COUPLE** 27/29 married couple with young family wish to meet same for outings, smokers & social drinkers, likes are camping, fishing, nudist clubs (on a quiet level), no sex needed, just company of like minded people, attractive slim couple (photo appreciated) Any area in S.E. Queensland. **Code QD-B17.**

#### **SOUTH EAST QLD.**

**COUPLE** Bi woman 40 yrs, straight husband 43 yrs seeks Bi woman for long term friendship/relationship. We're an easy going fun loving couple who enjoy the outdoor life and all kinds of social outings. **Code QD-H4.**

#### **SOUTH EAST QLD / NORTHERN NSW.**

**BI GUY** keen photographer interested in taking sensuous clad or nude photographs of other guys, girls, couples, groups, at home, on the beach, in the bush, the street, where ever makes a great shot. If you are interested then drop me a line with phone number so we can have a chat about it first. **Code QD-R16.**

#### **STRADBROKE ISLAND.**

**BI GUY** 54 yo, 6'2", 100kg, like to meet other guys for safe hot fun times, love giving oral. Age open. I smoke and drink, easy going, sense of humour, clean, genuine, enjoy most things. All letters welcome & answered, phone number nice, discretion assured & expected. **Code QD-B16.**

**REMEMBER ALWAYS PRACTICE SAFER SEX  
NEVER SHARE SEX TOYS, VIBRATORS, ETC.  
NEVER SHARE NEEDLES OR SYRINGES**

#### **TOOWOOMBA.**

**BI GUY** 32 from overseas seeks f/ship or r/ship with Bi female, transvestite & couples. Seeking mutual respect & discretion. All letters welcome & answered, ph number if possible. **Code QD-D9.**

#### **TOOWOOMBA.**

**BI GUY** 34 married professional seeking Bi couple to explore first time experience, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast or Toowoomba. Discretion assured & expected. **Code QD-D2.**

#### **TOWNSVILLE / ANYWHERE.**

**MALE/FEMALE PENPALS WANTED** I'm 30 yo guy and would like to meet people who are open minded & understanding people. I am currently serving a sentence. All letters answered. **PO Box 5574 MSO, Townsville, QLD 4810.**

#### **TOWNSVILLE.**

**BI GUY** 41 yo would like to meet Bi lady for friendship and view to having children. I am slim, fit & healthy, enjoy nude recreation & have a secure career. **Code QD-S15.**

#### **TOWNSVILLE.**

**BI GUY** 30's slim, attractive, healthy & fit seeks well built attractive, masculine Bi guy for fun and games. I'm married so discretion is essential. I'm relatively inexperienced with guys but keen to experiment with the right guy. If you look good in a pair of speedos then contact me. **Code QD-E2.**

#### **VICTORIA (VIC).**

#### **DIGGERS REST.**

**COUPLE** 22/24 seeking a Bi lady to fulfil wife's dream of F/F/M. Husband is straight. We are easy going, happy couple who love sex & each other. If you're horny include phone number for quick reply as we are waiting. **Code VI-N1.**

#### **MELBOURNE.**

**STRAIGHT GUY** tall handsome seeks uninhibited attractive Bi Lady for friendship. I will reply quickly and discretely. Photo appreciated & returned. **Code VI-B2.**

#### **MELBOURNE.**

**BI GUY** I am 6'1", told handsome; athletic build, professional, courteous, romantic seeking Bi female to form couple so that we can have fun times with other Bi couples. I am 48. Also seek similar Bi men for fun sensual sex. **Code VI-J2.**

#### **MELBOURNE / WINDSOR.**

**BI GUY** straight acting type of dude, seeking a Bi girl, Bi guy or Bi couple for friendship & a relationship. I'm 6' tall, well presented, cleanliness & discretion assured. Easy to get along with & enjoy getting the most & best out of life. All letters answered. Would also like to correspond with anybody from other States. **Code VI-J1.**

#### **MELBOURNE / S.E. SUBURBS.**

**BI WOMAN** I am married & overweight. I am honest, caring, loving person. I am 5.8 ft tall and need more from life. I'm bored. I am 26 y.o. I would like a female with a great sense of humour & can go with the flow. I am shy until ya get to know me. Prefer a Victorian based woman 34 or younger. ALA Thanks, I do want a lasting thing. No one-nighters. **Code VI-H1.**

#### **WESTERN AUSTRALIA (WA).**

#### **COUNTRY WA.**

**BI TRANSSEXUAL** seeking a Bi woman for friendship and relationship. I'm 34 yo, long dark hair, 164 cm in height, a bisexual transsexual (pre-op M to F). NOTE: I'm plain and girl next-door-ish. Not into gay scene etc. I live quietly and discretely the simple country life with my chickens and garden (but visit Perth regularly). I'm seeking someone flexible minded who'll accept both my current (and future) anatomy. My interests include environmental issues, reading and science fiction. I'm a non-smoker, non-drinker & not quite vegetarian. *I am a - Bisexual transsexual, Seeking - Bisexual Woman.* **Code WA-J1.**

#### **MANDURAH / PERTH.**

**WHERE** do all the Bi men, women & couple disappear to after the age of 55. The straights, gays & lesbians continue on satisfactorily, why can't we? Come on all you 55 plus people, lots of living & loving still left in this bi man, so lets get together. **Code WA-D3.**



#### MAYLANDS / PERTH.

**BI GUY** 44yrs 5'8", fit, healthy, like to try passive role while cross dressed. Average looks, build. Limited experience in this type of sex. Code WA-M3.

#### PERTH.

**BI GIRL/STRAIGHT GUY COUPLE** Bi girl 26, straight man 31 seek friendship, relationship with Bi girl. We are an attractive & loving couple and wish to meet a genuine Bi girl to share new experiences & fun times. Discretion assured & expected. Photo please. Code WA-S5.

#### PERTH.

**FRIENDLY PENPAL WANTED.** I am a 27 yo inexperienced Bi female who has no Bi friends to talk/write to and wants someone to share letters, stories or just to have a conversation with. All letters answered - I promise! Code WA-W6.

#### PERTH.

**BI GIRL** 25 seeks f.ship + r.ship with lady any age. Couples welcome as a guy would be nice also. Photo please. ALA. Code WA-R5.

#### PERTH.

**BI MAN** never too old! 65 yo retired potential bi, slim, clean shaven, fit, active seeks experienced bi guy for intimate friendship, must be slim, clean shaven, preferably married, late 50's to early 60's. Code WA-D4.

#### PERTH.

**BI GUY** 37 yrs, reasonable looks/build, active sportsman, steady professional job, enjoys dinner parties, music, relaxing with friends seeks Bi girl/couple for long term friendship/relationship. Non-smoking preferred. Code WA-P3.

#### PERTH.

**BI GUY** 35yrs slim build 5'7", fair, fit & healthy, reasonable looks, enjoys most things, good sense of humour, easy going would like to meet Bi woman for honest safe future. ALA. Code WA-M1.

#### PERTH.

**BI GUY** own business, 45yrs, married, 5'7", slimish, fit & healthy, reasonable looks, S.O.H. Into boating (own boat), gym, fishing, BBQ, outdoors, footy & cricket, meeting people. Interested in meeting younger Bi guys, Bi girls, married or single, small build, straight acting, under 5'7" for friendship and possible relationship, possible X-dress ALA. Code WA-B2.

#### PERTH - VICTORIA PARK.

**PREOPERATIVE MALE-FEMALE TRANSSEXUAL** 37, seeks new friends to help explore her sexuality. I can only do this with people I like and trust, not with strangers. My interests include art, bulldada, books, science fiction, folk music, comics, films and eating out. I do not smoke or drink much but enjoy good conversation and food. Not into bondage but willing to try most safer sex practices. Code WA-D5.

#### OVER SEAS (OS).

##### HONG KONG.

**BI MALE** tall dark bi male would like to meet women, transsexuals or couples for mutual sensual pleasures the oriental way that brings one to ecstasy. Please write in first instance, thanks. Code OS-K1.

##### JAKARTA, INDONESIA..

**BISEXUAL WOMAN** attractive, Indonesian, 30's, on the go business woman, visits Brisbane and Sydney and other Asian cities regularly would like to meet bisexual women and other ABN members for coffee, dinner, nights out and fun times during my visits. Code OS-N1.

##### LAE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

**BISEXUAL MALE** academic, tall, tactile, born Scotland, working in PNG, seeks slim bisexual female for eventual marriage, affectionate and loyal. Interests include sailing, classical music, travel, frequent visitor to Qld. and can accomodate anyone wanting to visit here. Please write to:- Bill, c/- PO Box 2620, Lae, Papua New Guinea.

PLEASE NOTE: Advertisements from bisexual and bisexually inclined people will appear for FOUR issues only unless renewed. Advertisements from Gay men or lesbians looking for other same sex partners or from straight men or women looking for opposite sex partners will only appear for ONE issue unless they are members or subscribers. There are plenty of other avenues for gay men, lesbians and straight people to meet others. It is not that easy for bisexual people thus this service.

## EVERYONE READ THIS.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRACTICE SAFER SEX WITH ALL PARTNERS. THAT MEANS USING A CLEAN CONDOM WITH EACH PARTNER FOR BOTH VAGINAL AND ANAL INTERCOURSE. THE NUMBER OF WOMEN BECOMING INFECTED WITH HIV IS INCREASING IN AUSTRALIA WITH NOTABLE RISES RECENTLY IN NSW & WA, SO PLEASE TAKE RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION BUT THAT OF YOUR PARTNERS. ORAL SEX DOES POSE A RISK FOR TRANSMISSION OF SEVERAL SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES & HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE MEANS OF TRANSMISSION IN A SMALL NUMBER OF CASES OF HIV INFECTION OVERSEAS. HERPES, HEP. B, GONORRHOEA ARE SOME OF THE INFECTIONS THAT ARE TRANSMITTED ORALLY. WORRIED THEN USE CONDOMS AND/OR DAMS OR SEEK FURTHER ADVICE FROM HEALTH OR AIDS COUNCIL STAFF. FOR DIGITAL PENETRATION (FINGERING) OF VAGINA OR ANUS USE CLEAN LATEX GLOVES OR CONDOMS WITH EACH PARTNER AND NEVER SHARE DILDOS, VIBRATORS ETC. TRY TWO OR MORE CONDOMS ON VIBRATORS REMOVING THE TOP ONE BEFORE EACH NEW PENETRATION. USE CLEAN GLOVES FOR FISTING. IF YOU INJECT, NEVER SHARE NEEDLES AND SYRINGES WITH ANY OTHER PERSON. ALWAYS USE A NEW CLEAN NEEDLE AND OTHER GEAR. WE CARE ABOUT YOU. PLEASE DON'T PLACE YOURSELF, LOVED ONES AND OTHERS AT RISK BECAUSE OF IGNORANCE, FEAR, LUST OR BEING OUT OF IT.



# BI PERSONALS

*National Biways* provides a free personal ad section for ABN members/subscribers. Ads of a bisexual nature will appear for four issues. A fee of \$5 for non-members and non-subscribers will buy a placement for two issues.

## NO NOs ☹

ABN reserves the right to edit or reject ads that include material that is likely to offend others or that suggests illegal activity. This includes sex in exchange for money. ABN will not publish material that discriminates by ethnicity, gender, age, class or the like.

## DOs ☺

Please indicate what you like rather than what you dislike, treat people with respect and be honest about yourself.



WRITE YOUR AD IN THE PANEL BELOW (please use separate page for longer ads)

CITY/TOWN				STATE					

I/we am/are    WOMAN ☐    MAN ☐    TRANSSEXUAL ☐    COUPLE ☐ (describe)  
 BISEXUAL ☐    GAY ☐    STRAIGHT ☐    OTHER ☐ (describe)

seeking    WOMAN ☐    MAN ☐    TRANSSEXUAL ☐    COUPLE ☐ (describe)  
 BISEXUAL ☐    GAY ☐    STRAIGHT ☐    OTHER ☐ (describe)

### SIGNATURE

Please place my personal ad in the next issue of *National Biways*. I am 18 years or older and acknowledge that the publishers reserve the right to edit or reject offensive material or material that suggests illegal activity. I understand that my personal details will be kept strictly confidential by the publishers and not given to any other group, publication or person without my written permission.

☐ I am a non-member and non-subscriber and therefore enclose \$5 for my ad to appear for two issues

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

SURNAME	GIVEN NAMES
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Suburb/town	State/territory	Postcode
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Area code	
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Please post all replies to the address given above    yes ☐    no ☐

Please do not post replies.    I will collect ☐    telephone ☐

Post this page to **ABN, PO Box 490, LUTWYCHE Qld 4030 AUSTRALIA**



# ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF

## BISEXUAL HORIZONS

*Politics, Histories, Lives.*

Editors: Sharon Rose, Cris Stevens et. al.

This is an encyclopedic survey of bisexuality and the bisexual movement in Britain and elsewhere.  
It is divided into four sections:

Theory and Representation, which argues for flexibility in theories of sexual identity;

Personal Stories, where Bisexuals from many countries and backgrounds tell their stories and share their thoughts;

HIV/AIDS and Safer Sex, looks at the myth of the "bisexual conduit" and at bisexual safer sex practices;

and Bisexual Politics, documents the developments of the Bisexual Movement and its relationship to other groups.

The essays of personal experience and analysis in Bisexual Horizons have been edited by the Off Pink Collective who have pioneered the documentation of bisexual experience.

It is an essential read for anyone interested in the politics of sexuality.

Bisexual Horizons will be published by Lawrence & Wishart of London on  
September 2nd 1995.

To receive your copy of Bisexual Horizons simply fill in this slip and send it along with your payment to:-

THE OFF PINK COLLECTIVE, 24 SHANDON ROAD, LONDON SW4 9HR, UK.

Please send me ..... copies of Bisexual Horizons at £13.99 ----- £.....

Postage (Please add £1 per book for postage in the UK, £2 per book outside UK) ----- £.....

Total enclosed (All payments must be in UK Pounds Sterling) ----- £.....

Name: KIRSTEN McLEAN

Address: 12/1 DUNCRAIG AVENUE  
ARMADALE 3143  
VICTORIA  
AUSTRALIA



"National Biways." *National Biways*, vol. 4, no. 20, August-September 1995, p. [1]. Archives of Sexuality and Gender, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/DUIBKW704753958/AHSl?](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/DUIBKW704753958/AHSl?u=ubcolumbia&sid=bookmark-AHSl)  
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